

# Country Living

MARCH 2015



## spring MAKEOVERS

Amazing Before & Afters! Easy Organizing Ideas!  
Fun New Finds For Every Room!



Plus

**WHAT TO  
COLLECT NOW**  
(See page 21)

**PRETTY  
KITCHENS**  
Add Charm on  
Any Budget

**PARTY-READY  
DESSERTS**  
From Cookies  
to Cupcakes

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Country Living

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MARCH 2015



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# editor's note



## THE GREAT HORSESHOE HUNT!

Don't forget to look for the horseshoe hidden in this issue. If you find it, go to [countryliving.com/win](http://countryliving.com/win) and you'll be entered for a chance to win the Crosley record player on page 12. (Retail value: \$160)

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Find the Horseshoe Contest. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning January 27, 2015 at 12:01 AM (ET) through March 10, 2015 at 11:59 PM (ET), go to [www.countryliving.com/win](http://www.countryliving.com/win) on a computer or wireless device and complete and submit the entry form pursuant to the on-screen instructions. Readers will submit what page number they found the hidden horseshoe on and answer the question on the entry form in one hundred words or less, "What's the first record you'll play on this turntable and why?" Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. One Winner will receive one Portable USB Vinyl Record Player (ARV: \$160 each). Odds of winning will depend upon the total number of eligible entries received. Open to legal residents of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia, who have reached the age of majority in their state or territory of residence at time of entry. Legal residents of Canada (excluding Quebec) who have reached the aforementioned age in their province of residence at time of entry are also eligible to enter. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes subject to complete official rules available at [www.countryliving.com/win](http://www.countryliving.com/win)

## The Never-Ending Makeover

I HAVE LIVED IN MY HOME for three short years, and I've already repainted my dining room three times. First, it was Amherst Gray by Benjamin Moore, a rich gray with a hint of brown that I first encountered in the pages of *Country Living*. Next it was Tudric Pewter, an almost neutral blue-gray by Ralph Lauren. Now it's coated in Silver Lining by Pratt & Lambert, a not-too-warm, not-too-cool, not-at-all-silvery white that a prop stylist introduced to me. I'm happy with it. For now.

The beauty of working at a magazine is the fact that we're constantly inspired by other people's spaces. The danger of working at a magazine is the fact that, well, we're constantly inspired by other people's spaces. It's almost impossible to go a full day without feeling compelled to, say, start collecting Jadeite (page 21), install a new light fixture (page 74), or redo the kitchen ceiling with pretty tin tiles (page 88).

That's why I find the word "makeover" to be misleading. Is any home project truly ever over? All it takes is one look at a magazine, or one trip down the Pinterest rabbit hole and, *voila*, you're waiting for a new gallon of potential at your local paint retailer. But isn't that the fun of it too? Chances are, you have something on your to-do (or to-redo!) list, and I hope this issue motivates you to get started. I'm just going to do my best not to fall in love with the peacock blue paint on the bottom of this page. It would make for a pretty cozy dining room, right? Hmm...

**Rachel Hardage Barrett**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

## What We're Making Over!

A look at what *Country Living* staffers are tackling next.

Deputy Art Director  
**Jennica Johnstone**

"I just bought an old diner bench, and I'm upholstering seat cushions with this plus-sign blanket." \$80; [spearmintlove.com](http://spearmintlove.com)



Style Director  
**Jami Suspic**

"The kitchen in my bungalow needs some TLC. First up: A new backsplash behind the stove." *RedBank* tile; [waterworks.com](http://waterworks.com)



Executive Editor  
**Steele Marcoux**

"The den of my 1967 rancher is about to get painted this peacock blue." *Classic Teal*, Valspar



Deputy Editor  
**Caroline McKenzie**

"I've been eyeing this Moravian star light fixture for my son's bedroom." \$199; [shadesoflight.com](http://shadesoflight.com)



# Country Living

March 2015

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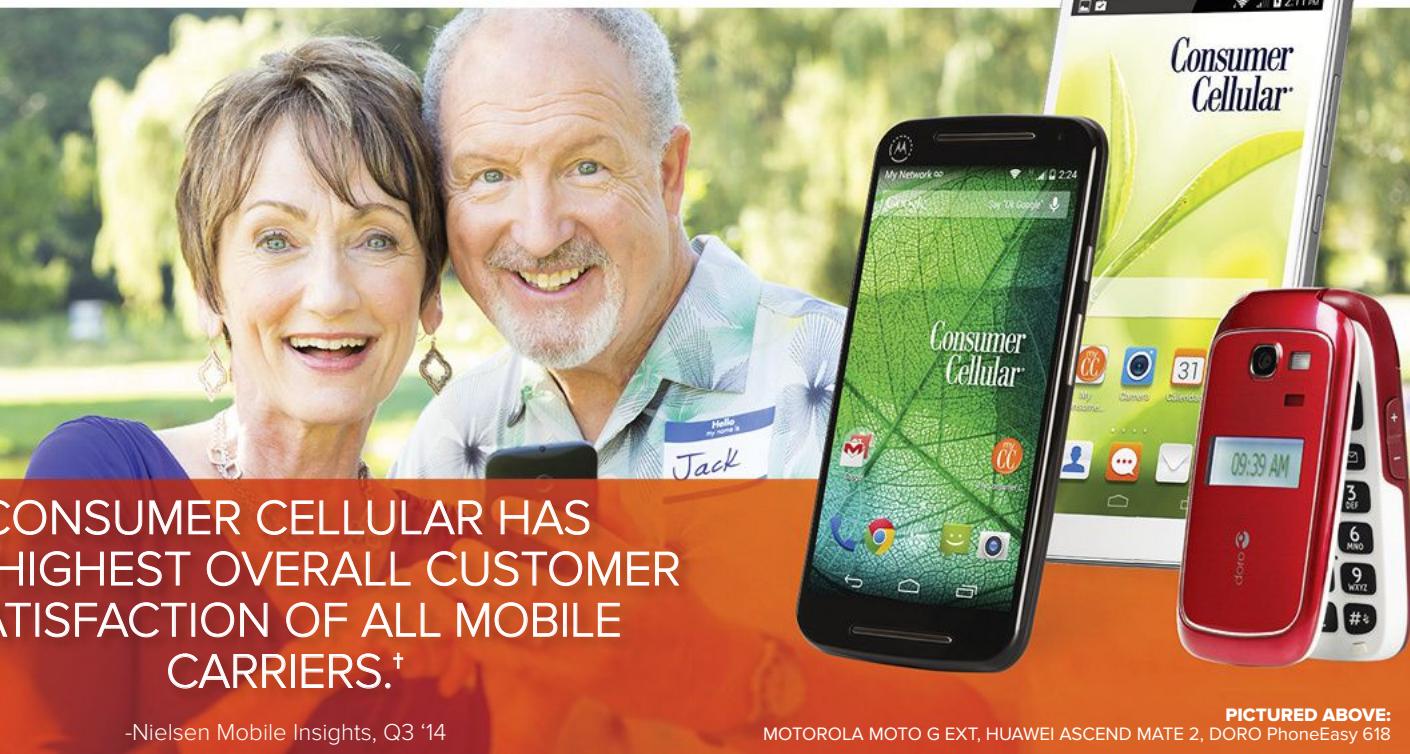
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# Dear Country Living

WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY ABOUT OUR DECEMBER/JANUARY ISSUE. PLUS: ONE FETCHING FELINE!



## Feedback

"I am so very pleased to see my favorite magazine getting back to its roots! My mom has decades-old issues she's saved and keeps picking up to enjoy again, and the December/January issue will be one to add to that stack! Hooray for Country Living! You're back where you belong!"

—Megan Gramzow, Dexter, OR



"I loved the crates stacked as a Christmas tree in the December issue [page 18]! I am one of the secretaries in a wonderful middle school and wanted to share our 'office' version of that tree. We just spray-painted the inside of old file boxes and stacked accordingly. Thanks for the inspiration!"

—Nancy Spangler,  
Falling Waters, WV



## A PERFECTLY IMPERFECT HOLIDAY CARD

Inspired by our December/January issue, reader Jamee Whitehead kept it real with her Christmas greeting.

"Every year around Christmas, I struggle to dress and pose my family in a way that would be worthy of a holiday card. Inspired by your December editor's note, my husband and I decided to bag the typical family portrait for something that embraced our imperfections as a family and welcomed the season with realness and humor. My husband often drinks lazily from the milk carton, my kids are some of the messiest hooligans around, and most of the time I can't cook anything worthy of sharing. This year we're flaunting our imperfections and are proud they'll hang amongst all those holiday cards staged to perfection." —Jamee Whitehead, Maricopa, AZ

## Pet of the Month

**Mimi, a 4-year-old Napoleon kitty, loves army crawling from room to room and wholeheartedly believes she'll one day snag a bird through the window.**

Comments chosen for publication may be edited for length and clarity.  
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# The **CHECK** List

COMPLETELY FUN, NO-OBLIGATION WAYS TO ENJOY THE COUNTRY THIS MONTH!



No. 1

## CELEBRATE SPRING!

The long-awaited arrival of March 20 is as good of an excuse as any to treat yourself to fresh flowers. Still snowing in your area? Try the frost-proof picks on the next page.

>>

Win this!  
See page 5  
for details.

No 1

CONTINUED

## MORE FLORAL FINDS

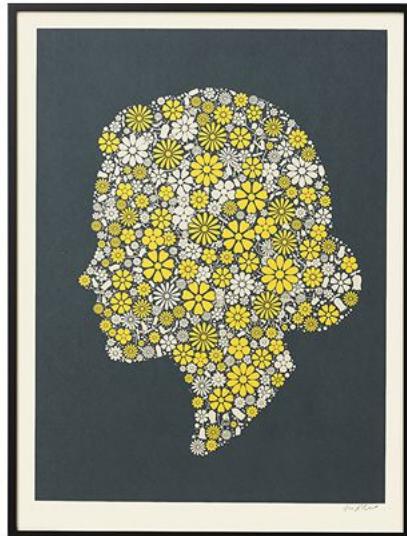
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these fresh picks.



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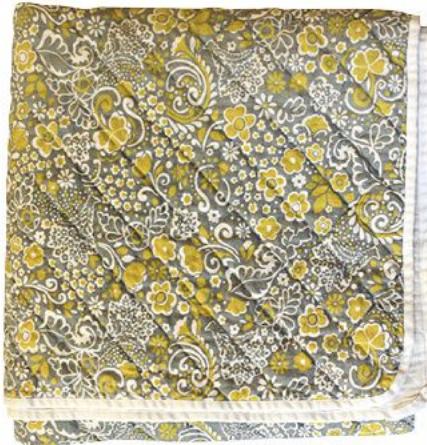
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### F. BOW TIE

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change with this  
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### G. SNEAKERS

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\$60; [keds.com](http://keds.com)

### H. BLANKET

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quilted canvas. \$145;  
[utilitycanvas.com](http://utilitycanvas.com)

### I. WASTE BASKET

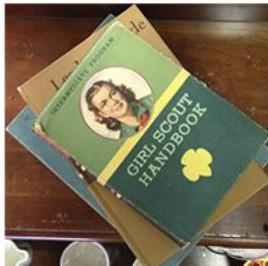
Practical and pretty.  
\$68; [mackenzie-childs.com](http://mackenzie-childs.com)

No 3

## GO SCOUTING

We've been spotting retro Girl Scout items camped out everywhere, from flea markets to our own *CL* Fairs. Now it's your turn! Post your finds on Instagram, and we'll share them throughout March. Don't forget to tag photos

#CLSCOUTSIGHTING



Managing Editor Amy Mitchell saw this vintage handbook at the Country Living Fair in Atlanta.



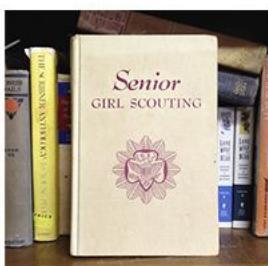
Associate Photo Editor Sarah Hudgins spotted this stash of badges at a thrift shop in Albertville, AL.

No 2

## RACK UP SOME STYLE

Don't have space for a big hutch chock-full of china? Try an old-fashioned plate rack. At 31" W x 39" H, this pine piece from Ikea (\$80; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com)) offers the charm of a rustic cupboard for a fraction of the space or price. Flush-mount shelves and a row of peg hooks also make it a versatile accessory in playrooms, home offices, and craft rooms. (Oh, and that pretty blue-and-white dishware?

It's new from Ralph Lauren; [ralphlauren.com](http://ralphlauren.com).)



Design Director Eva Spring snapped a pic of this scouting tome in Kansas City, MO.



COUNTRY COMEBACK

No 4

## DECORATE WITH QUILT MOTIFS

Classic geometric shapes—like the ones featured on our August 1986 cover—are suddenly popping up everywhere.



From left to right: Mint Throw Pillow, \$49; [www.calisea.com](http://www.calisea.com). Neon Bolster, \$45; [earthcadets.etsy.com](http://earthcadets.etsy.com). Taupe Throw Pillow, \$73; [fermlivingshop.com](http://fermlivingshop.com). Red Throw Pillow, \$49; [www.calisea.com](http://www.calisea.com).



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**E. WASHI TAPE**  
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**F. MOUSE PAD**  
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\*Than our regular litter

No 5

## Revive the lost art of... The Sunday Drive

When's the last time you piled into the family car and took a drive just to enjoy the pleasure of the open road, not to mention one another's company? This month, pick one Sunday afternoon to put the keys in the ignition, roll the windows down, and explore the countryside (or even the neighborhood) with no set itinerary other than braking for every lemonade stand or antique shop along the way. It may be just what you need to refuel for the week ahead.

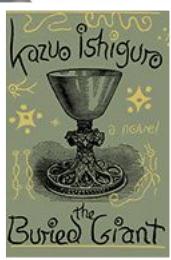


No 6

### DIVE INTO A GOOD BOOK

**AUTHOR ANN PATCHETT'S MARCH**

**PICK:** "While Kazuo Ishiguro's beloved *Remains of the Day* was full of butlers and English manor houses, his new novel *The Buried Giant* (\$20) features medieval knights, ogres, and dragons. Dragons are not my thing, but this story of an elderly couple's heroic efforts to remember the past moved me to tears."



Order a signed copy of this book from Ann's independent bookshop, Parnassus Books ([parnassusbooks.net](http://parnassusbooks.net)).



No 7

## Find a New Favorite Fabric

Known for its smartly designed paper goods, online retailer Minted has launched a fabric line. The textiles, available in 200+ patterns and printed on durable cotton canvas, have us running for our pinking shears.



B



C

**A.** Bicycle in Sunshine. **B.** Herringbone Incomplete in Aqua. **C.** Flower Power in Seafoam. \$32/yard; [minted.com](http://minted.com)

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MY KIND OF COUNTRY  
No 8

## GET TO KNOW... MOLLY SIMS

This Kentucky-raised model and actress loves entertaining at home and is a sucker for a roadside fruit stand. Her new book, *The Everyday Supermodel*, a guide to beauty, fashion, and wellness, is out now.

**SECRET ANTIQUING SOURCE** "Hazel, Kentucky. This cute town is full of great shops. I found my wedding china there." (*Try replacements.com for a similar style.*)



### SPRING PASTIME

"Farm stands! I look for fresh flowers and fruit to whip up one of my crowd-pleasing cobblers." **Tote**, \$13; [scoutmob.com](http://scoutmob.com).



### WEEKEND UNIFORM

"Polished but comfy—jeans, an oversize blazer, and ballet flats." **Ballet Flats**, \$59; [landsend.com](http://landsend.com)



### GO-TO COUNTRY ESCAPE

"I love to escape from my home in L.A. to Yellowstone National Park for colorful views in the spring and skiing in the winter." **Bear and Spring Flowers Poster**, \$15 for 12" x 18"; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



### KICK-BACK SOUNDTRACK

"I never tire of Miranda Lambert's sassy sounds." **Platinum**, \$15; [store.mirandalambert.com](http://store.mirandalambert.com)

"A fire pit and s'mores guarantee a good time." **S'mores Kit**, \$18; [whimsyandspice.com](http://whimsyandspice.com)

### BEAUTY MUST-HAVE

"When I'm not creating treatments at home, I look to lines like Josie Maran that use good-for-you ingredients." **Lipstick**, \$22; [josiemarancosmetics.com](http://josiemarancosmetics.com)

# If your walls could talk, they'd say subscribe.



The image shows the cover of HGTV magazine. At the top left is the HGTV logo with a blue house icon. A banner at the top right reads "More style! Less spending!". The main headline is "Easiest makeovers ever!" with the subtext "New looks with stuff you have". Below this are several feature headlines: "POPS OF COLOR 82 bright ideas for every room", "Love your kitchen 9 little, low-cost changes", and "BYE-BYE MESSY CLOSETS!". A small circular photo of a woman, identified as Meg, is on the left. The central image is a photograph of a bright yellow-themed interior, likely a kitchen or living room, featuring a white cabinet with open shelving displaying books, vases, and plants, and a blue patterned ottoman in the foreground. The overall aesthetic is vibrant and organized.

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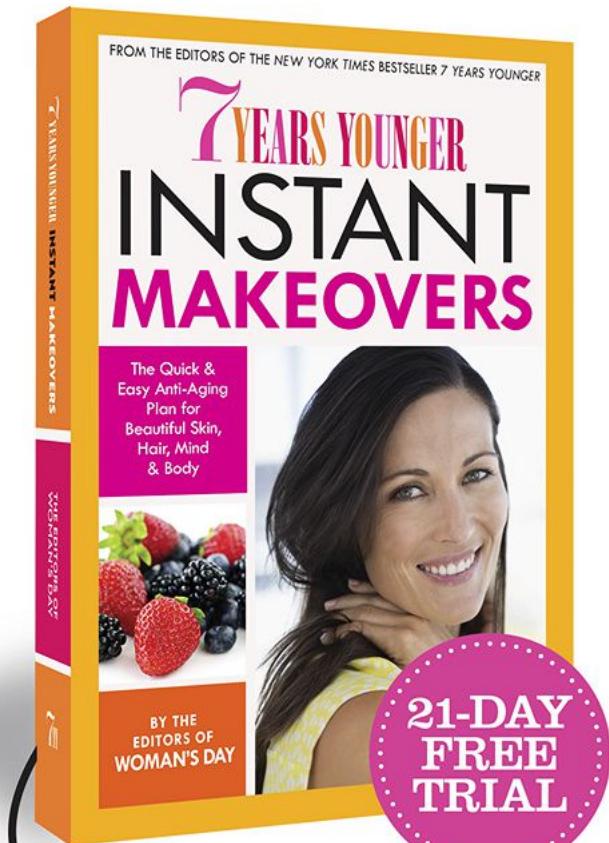
From the editors of the New York Times best seller **7 Years Younger**

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# thrill of the hunt

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, AND OTHER ONE-OF-A-KIND FINDS



## THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE TO **JADEITE**

These green glass pieces will put  
your kitchen shelves and  
cupboards in mint condition.





In 1933, with the Great Depression at its height, consumers were on the hunt for affordable kitchen and dishwares. Pennsylvania's McKee Glass Company added green scrap glass to its opaque formula, producing an inexpensive product with a novel color that satisfied that demand. Following suit, Jeannette Glass began producing what they coined "Jadite." In 1942, Anchor Hocking copied the look with their Fire-King line of "Jade-ite." Benefiting from a post-World War II economic boom, the line sold more than 25 million pieces over the next decade. Today, these prized picks are still popular with collectors.

#### 1. BALL JUG

Sold in limited quantities in the 1940s by Anchor Hocking, these pitchers are now the most coveted single pieces of Jadeite. Even damaged specimens (they're prone to stress cracks around the neck and handle) go for \$150. **Value:** \$400.

#### 2. GINGER JAR

This 3-inch canister by Jeannette Glass was part of a four-spice set that retailed for \$4.25. **Value:** \$145.

#### 3. WATER DISPENSER

This 1940s water chiller has a chrome spout that twists down to dispense water. The missing glass cover knocks \$10 off its worth. **Value:** \$90.

#### 4. "NEW" PLATTER

Displaying a 1960s Fire-King sticker, this unused piece is called "new old stock" in collector's parlance. **Value:** \$80.

#### 5. D-HANDLE COFFEE MUG

These 9-ounce Fire-King mugs are valued for their notable grip. **Value:** \$30 each.

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2015

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#### 1. BEADED MIXING BOWLS

The thin, rounded edge of this 1950s four-piece group was only produced for a short time, making a complete set a rare find. (For comparison, the set of four bowls in the upper left-hand corner of page 22 goes for about \$140). **Value:** \$550 for the set.

#### 2. BATTER BOWL

This spouted number is one of the most frequently reproduced pieces of Jadeite. A telltale sign it's an authentic 1950s Fire-King batter bowl? The height. Vintage versions like the one shown here measure in at 4 inches, while contemporary imitations are 2 to 4 inches taller. **Value:** \$40.

#### 3. CANISTERS

Dating to the 1930s, these 48-ounce McKee canisters—the largest the company ever made—were designed to store kitchen staples of coffee, tea, and flour. While a single canister commands a respectable \$200, a set with matching green tones is a prize indeed. **Value:** \$750.

#### 4. BUTTER DISH

In the 1930s, butter was commonly sold in whopping 1-pound blocks. Made the same decade, this McKee lidded dish would have accommodated the spread in style. **Value:** \$125.

#### 5. RANGE SET

McKee sold small shakers called range sets, which were designed to be kept in easy reach of the stove for a quick sprinkle of flour, sugar, salt, or pepper. This set's desirable black Art Deco lettering ups its estimate. **Value:** \$200.

## PICK A PATTERN!

These striking designs are six of the most iconic Jadeite styles.

### 1. SHEAVES OF WHEAT

Available from 1957 to 1959, this delicate design is a rare find. **Value:** dinner plate, \$100.

### 2. RESTAURANT WARE

From the 1940s through the 1960s, this sturdy, no-fuss style was a staple for churches, hospitals, and its namesake, restaurants. With its sleek lines, it's now the most collected pattern. **Value:** salad plate, \$18.

### 3. JANE RAY

This ribbed pattern had a long run from the mid-1940s to the mid-1960s. Its ample availability keeps current prices down. **Value:** saucer, \$5; dinner plate, \$10.

### 4. ALICE

Cups and saucers in this floral pattern were given away inside boxes of oatmeal from 1945 to 1949. Dinner plates are more rare. **Value:** dinner plate, \$45; saucer, \$6.

### 5. CHARM

The mod, square shape on this 1950s plate has many current-day fans, making it one of the hardest styles to track down. **Value:** dinner plate, \$27.

### 6. SHELL

The last dishware pattern debuted in 1965 and was produced for 10 years. **Value:** dinner plate, \$8.



## JADEITE RESOURCES

**DC ESTATES, LLC** An online estate sale with a large Jadeite inventory; [dcestates.com](http://dcestates.com)

**JEANNE RONDEAU** Impressive assortment of mixing bowls; [jeannerondeau.etsy.com](http://jeannerondeau.etsy.com)

**JUST ABOUT MODERN** The go-to for Restaurant Ware; [justaboutmodern.etsy.com](http://justaboutmodern.etsy.com)

**KOLORIZE** Best variety of Fire-King patterns; [kolorize.etsy.com](http://kolorize.etsy.com)

**ONE POM MOM** Specializes in canister and shaker sets; [onepommom.etsy.com](http://onepommom.etsy.com)

## HOW TO SPOT THE REAL DEAL

On the hunt for an authentic piece? Look for the logos of the three original Jadeite purveyors.



**McKee**

The company emblazoned their logo on canisters, shakers, refrigerator containers, as well as a single, short-lived tabletop pattern.



**Jeannette**

Although many Jeannette pieces were left unmarked to be used in grocery store promotions, those with a mark bear this simple emblem.



**Anchor Hocking**

The company's very first backstamps in 1942 simply said FIRE KING OVEN GLASS in block letters. But soon, a Fire King logo began appearing.



## The *Collecting* Life

Checks, please! **Mary Randolph Carter** reveals her obsession with an iconic country pattern.

**I DON'T KNOW WHY**, but there's something about checks that have always made my heart skip a beat. No matter what form they express themselves on—**canisters**, **lampshades**, drawer pulls, vintage toys, the handles of perky **butter knives**—you name it, I have to have checks, and I always make room for them.

Where did that yearning for those little squares of color begin? Was it the comfort of that old gingham apron my grandmother wore as she poured the steaming chocolate pudding into that lineup of little Pyrex cups? Or the black-and-white-checked floors in my favorite country diners? Or the **red-and-white-checked tablecloth** that my mother spread out on our old weathered picnic table?

Checks have a way of bringing a little bit of humility and buckets of warmth to a home. They speak to simpler days and a certain authenticity that I love. At the same time, they can be terribly posh, and even modern, given the right turn. I have seen decorators take chances with large-scale checks on voluminous taffeta curtains and the wonderful contradiction of green-and-white checks on a Louis-the-something gilt chair.

I must confess that my passion for checks has at times driven me to wanton thievery. Having dinner once in a quaint bistro in Paris, I found my lap spread with the most beautiful large red-and-white-checked napkin embroidered with the name of the place. I was actually considering ways to steal away with it but in the end confessed to the owner how I could not live without it. A bit startled, but not surprised (she too had long ago succumbed to the same delightful malady), the owner sent me away with two. They now cover a pair of pillows in my New York City apartment. You could say I have a checkered past—and present!

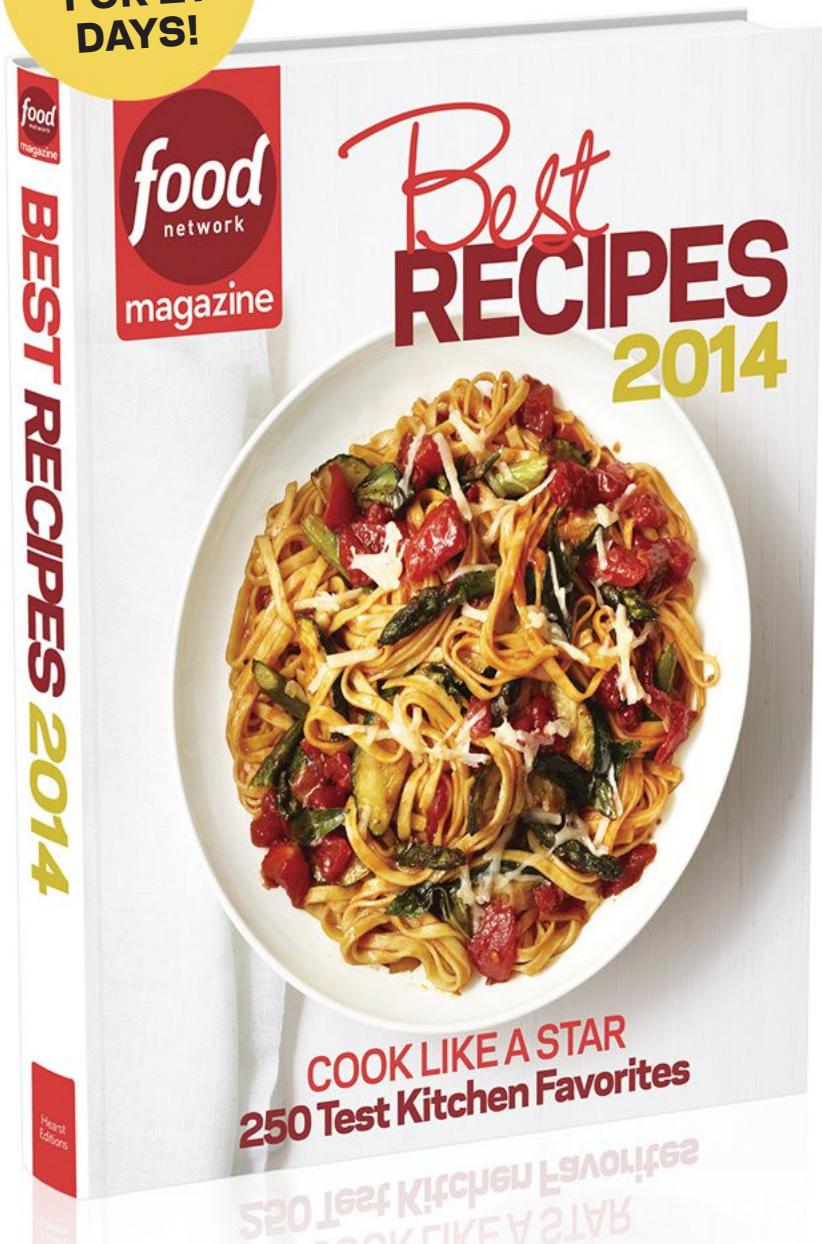
*xx Carter*

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# What Is It? What Is It Worth?

Our antiques  
specialists appraise your  
finds and collectibles.

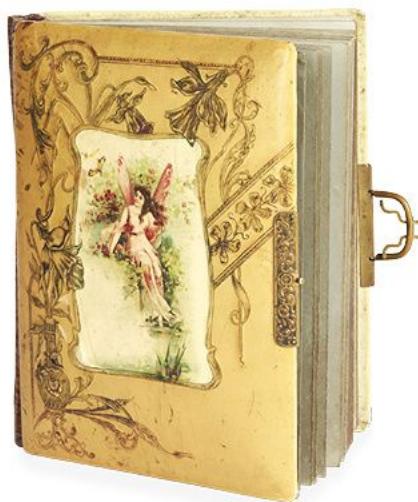


“I’m an avid stamp collector, but I recently became interested in vintage mailboxes. I found this green one at my local flea market. Is this shade its original color? ”

—M.M., PAGE, AZ

**<< WHAT IT IS:****CAST-IRON MAILBOX**

This early-20th-century mailbox carries cachet because it was produced by Griswold, one of the most sought-after makers of cast iron. In operation from 1865 until 1957, the company specialized in cookware, but ardent cast-iron collectors are interested in all forms. This No. 3 mailbox from 1910 is no exception. Unpainted examples are valued at \$350; because this one bears an unoriginal, though eye-catching, green paint job, its value is considerably less, says Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:****\$125**

**"Does my grandmother's scrapbook have any worth beyond sentimental value?"**

—L.C., WEBB, MS

**WHAT IT IS:****VICTORIAN ALBUM**

Ladies in the 1800s kept keepsake albums full of postcards and other paper ephemera, says Marsha Bemko of *Antiques Roadshow*, who consulted with Jason Preston. This one has discoloration but retains value with the winged fairy image—a popular decoration at the time and sought-after design today.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:****\$75**

**"I see vintage suitcases everywhere these days. Is my old set of any interest?"**

—T.F., HILLSBORO, OR

**WHAT IT IS:****TOWNCRAFT LUGGAGE SET**

As air, rail, and ship travel took off in the 1950s, so did luggage sales. This trio of hard-sided suitcases hails from that golden era, when green marble finishes were all the rage. "Made by Towncraft, a J.C. Penney house brand, this set copies a Samsonite design, which was then one of the leaders of the industry," explains appraiser Helaine Fendelman. Single cases aren't worth much more than their original 1950s price (about \$25). But because these are in good condition (no stains, tears, or undesirable smells lurking inside) and are a matched set, they go for a tidy sum.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:****\$175 for the set**
**| GUESS THE WORTH |**

A gold and enamel sunflower-shaped trinket box, which belonged to heiress and famed horticulturist Bunny Mellon, recently sold for

a) \$450 b) \$4,275 c) \$12,500

»» SEE PAGE 33 TO SEE IF YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY! →

**"Can you tell me where this teapot was made?"**

—J.D., ATLANTA, GA

**WHAT IT IS:**

**SILVER-PLATE WATER PITCHER**

It may look like a teapot, but it's actually a water pitcher. A once-standard design, the pitcher pivots on the stand to pour a cool drink into a goblet, which would have sat atop the circular perch at the front, says Marsha Bemko of *Antiques Roadshow*, who consulted with show appraiser David Walker. The scrolling grape-and-leaf design is typical of motifs produced in the silver plate hubs of Massachusetts and Connecticut in the 1860s and 1870s. Missing its goblet, the item is worth much less than the going rate of \$600.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:**

**\$200**



**| GUESS THE WORTH |**

Talk about a pot of gold! In 2002, the National Library of Ireland purchased a sprawling collection of James Joyce manuscripts, including 16 drafts of *Ulysses*, for

a) \$3 million b) \$11.7 million c) \$19 million

»»» SEE PAGE 33 TO SEE IF YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY! →



**"I love the design on this tiny trinket box. What's the proper term for it?"**

—J.O., HOLTVILLE, CA

**WHAT IT IS: ROSEMALING TRUNK**

This box is adorned with a Norwegian folk art design known as rosemaling, which translates to "rose painting." The 8-inch trunk bears the date 1880 and the word "Gratulerer" ("congratulations"), suggesting it was a gift for a family immigrating to America, explains Helaine Fendelman.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH: \$450**

**"What is this tiny notebook-ish item? Can you explain its use?"**

—A.B., DUBLIN, OH

**WHAT IT IS:**

**HOUSEKEEPER NOTEPAD**

"The marking on the back of this tiny sterling silver notebook dates it and the attached mechanical pencil to 1880," says Marsha Dixey, who consulted with Karen Rigdon, director of silver at Heritage Auctions. The piece, which was made by New York silversmith George Shiebler, would have been worn as a necklace by a head housekeeper to take down work notes. Covered in ornate decoration, it also served a status symbol among the house staff.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:**

**\$300**



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# New Finds

"Get ready for spring by upgrading your usual go-tos, from towels to beauty buys," says *Country Living* Senior Web Editor **LAUREN MATTHEWS**.

Here are her favorite finds for the season ahead.

## CHECKS, PLEASE

From sheets to stationery to lampshades, gingham is everywhere—and I'm loving it! These supersoft terry-cloth and linen towels will add instant cheer to your bathroom.

**Checked Towels**, from \$14.95; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com)



## INITIAL RESULTS

What's in a name? A surefire way to set your style apart. C. Wonder's Monogram Shop lets you stamp your initials on everything from bags and cuffs to belts and mugs.

**Monogram Mugs**, \$12 each; [cwonder.com](http://cwonder.com)

## BRIGHT IDEA

Candles make great hostess gifts—stock up and you'll never be left empty-handed. Hand-poured in mason jars, these soy candles out of Brooklyn feature unexpected scents like Black Currant, Sweet Fig and Green Tea Lemongrass.

**Scented Soy Candles**, \$24; [brooklyncandlestudio.com](http://brooklyncandlestudio.com)



## NAILED IT

Hate the way some nail polish removers can leave your nails all dried out? This nontoxic polish remover is made from natural ingredients, so it's kind on your digits—plus, it smells lovely thanks to a subtle lemongrass scent.

**Natural Nail Polish Remover**, \$13; [pritinyc.com](http://pritinyc.com)



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1 Based on awards received in the past 12 months, ending November 2014. 2 The Chevrolet Malibu received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among midsize cars in the proprietary J.D. Power 2014 Initial Quality Study.™ Study based on responses from 86,118 new-vehicle owners, measuring 239 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February–May 2014. Your experiences may vary. Visit [jdpower.com](http://jdpower.com).



**"This cradle came from a yard sale. Is it a reproduction or an antique?"**

—B.L., CORBIN, KY

**WHAT IT IS:  
RURAL WOODEN CRADLE**

The rudimentary design indicates it is indeed an antique. The square corner posts date it to mid-18th-century Appalachia, says Marsha Bemko of Antiques Roadshow, who consulted with show appraiser Gary Sullivan. Versions with original paint (this one shows faint traces of red) net prices twice as high.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:  
\$305**

**"I bought this ornate wicker item for \$15. Is it worth more?"**

—B.L., ITHACA, MI

**WHAT IT IS:  
WICKER STUDIO CHAIR**

The more intricate the wicker pattern, the more value it has to collectors, explains Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions. Finding examples without defects—particularly elaborate ones like this circa 1890s chair—is difficult. Its mint condition suggests it may have been used in a photographer's portrait studio, as opposed to an outdoor location.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:  
\$250**



**"Is this stately platter a true royal relic?"**

—E.W., NICEVILLE, FL

**WHAT IT IS:  
SOUVENIR TRAY**

It bears the badge of Prince Frederick of Wales, but this wooden tray is an inexpensive island souvenir from the 1950s, explains Helaine Fendelman. The repeated crest and palm design is taken from the book *The Natural History of Barbados*, which was printed in 1750 when the country was a British colony. Were it a real period item, it would sell for more than \$1,000.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:**

**\$25**



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ANTIQUES ROADSHOW**

**HELALINE FENDELMAN  
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# Country Listings

Tie on your tool belt! We found six historic fixer-uppers at can't-be-beat prices.



## MERIDIAN, NY ▶ \$100,000

Iconic exterior columns and a winding staircase take center stage in this regal 3,200-square-foot Greek Revival. Much-needed plumbing updates keep the price down. *Estate executor: Eliot Dudley; ewdudley@gmail.com*



## ◀ PARSONS, KS

**\$49,900**

Recently updated from a multi-unit apartment to a single-family home, this four-bedroom, 2,152-square-foot Victorian awaits finishing touches like new paint and appliances.

Agent: *Julia Finley; www.fm-realestate.com*



## ▲ GOLDSBORO, NC \$49,000

Although this home needs a lofty renovation of its 3,516-square-foot interior, its original wood flooring and decorative molding make it worth the elbow grease. *Agent: David Kornegay; kornegayrealty.com*

## UNIONTOWN, PA ▶ \$34,900

Thanks to a modest price tag, restoring this 3,258-square-foot home (plus a two-bedroom carriage house) to its original grandeur is totally within reach. *Agent: Cynthia Robinson; howardhanna.com*



## PETERSBURG, VA ▶ \$69,000

Who doesn't love a tax break? This three-story home, located in Petersburg's Centre Hill Historic District, qualifies for a historic rehabilitation credit. *Agent: Jeff Clark; jeffclarksells.com*



## ▲ ANDERSON, SC \$58,000

Built in 1895 this classic Queen Anne retains its charm but is in need of some TLC (new fixtures, windows, and paint) inside and out. *Agent: Gloria Robinson; gloria-robinson.com*



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# home sweet home

INSPIRING IDEAS FOR IN AND AROUND THE HOUSE

## Put Some Spring in Your Sunroom

Cheerful essentials to transform your space from dreary to bright.

### PRETTY SEATING

We used 9.5 yards of blue fabric (turquoise linen, \$27/yard; [avisa fabrics.etsy.com](http://avisa fabrics.etsy.com)) to cover a plain settee (\$899; [ballard.com](http://ballard.com)).

### PATTERNED PILLOWS

Floral (\$195; [biscuit-home.com](http://biscuit-home.com)) + buffalo check (\$23/yard; [calicocorners.com](http://calicocorners.com)) + geometric (\$139; [rebeccaatwood.com](http://rebeccaatwood.com)) = the perfect perk-up combo.

**POTTED PLANT**  
Easiest way to revitalize a room? With something green, like this fragrant lemon tree.

**TEXTURED TABLE**  
Made from an old pigeon basket, this woven piece is a conversation starter. \$770; [bungalowclassic.com](http://bungalowclassic.com)



# 12 MORE WAYS TO FRESHEN UP YOUR SUNROOM

PRETTY SEATING

ROMANTIC



Niles Settee, \$599;  
[homedecorators.com](http://homedecorators.com)



Leaf Pillow Cover in Coral, \$68;  
[serenaandlily.com](http://serenaandlily.com)



Mughal Coffee Table, \$599;  
[wisteria.com](http://wisteria.com)



Primrose, \$9/2.5 quart; [lowes.com](http://lowes.com)

PATTERNED PILLOW

BOHEMIAN



Suitor Loveseat, \$1,199;  
[cb2.com](http://cb2.com)



Dots Gold Square Pillow, \$42;  
[unisonhome.com](http://unisonhome.com)



Stocksund Loveseat, \$579;  
[ikea.com](http://ikea.com)



Eames Floral Pillow in Green,  
\$55; [llmain.com](http://llmain.com)



Largo Jaipur Coffee Table, \$496;  
[wayfair.com](http://wayfair.com)



Seagrass Coffee Table Ottoman, \$599;  
[potterybarn.com](http://potterybarn.com)



Fern; \$15; [glasshouseworks.com](http://glasshouseworks.com)

TEXTURED TABLE

POTTED PLANT

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# Old Find, New Use!

These clever tricks for pretty vintage items make getting organized look good.



TURN  
**WOVEN BASKETS**  
INTO  
**MUDROOM CUBBIES**

Rethink your exit strategy! Hung from bright yellow hooks (\$14 each; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com)) and personalized with wooden letters, these wicker baskets (a mix of picnic and fishing) transform mudroom chaos into calm. **FIND IT FAST:** Baskets, [paintedladyantiques.etsy.com](http://paintedladyantiques.etsy.com).

# GET CREATIVE WITH CRAFTS STORAGE

From discarded kitchen utensils to cast-off farm supplies, these old finds make for one smart workspace.

## ① TURN BERRY BASKETS INTO BINS

Hung on adhesive plastic hooks, farmers' market produce baskets organize supplies and free up counterspace.

## ② TURN A SPRING INTO A NOTE STATION

File away papers and gift tags in a colorful compression coil.

## ③ TURN FLOWER FROGS INTO DESK SUPPLY ORGANIZERS

These ceramic and metal ones store pens upright and business cards within reach.

## ④ TURN A CHICKEN FEEDER INTO A SPOOL HOLDER

No need to keep your best-loved twine cooped up in a

drawer. A chicken trough's feeder holes make a sweet roosting spot for these colorful crafting supplies. (Ours is sitting atop a crate for extra height.)

**FIND IT FAST:** Chicken feeder, [jbsmercantile.com](http://jbsmercantile.com)

## ⑤ TURN WOODEN SPOONS INTO RIBBON WRANGLERS

Hung with drapery rod brackets, this kitchen staple gives order to unruly spools of ribbon.

## ⑥ TURN FISHING RODS INTO WRAPPING PAPER DISPENSERS

Use a handsaw to trim cane fishing poles (or any wooden pole) to desired lengths, then hang with drapery rod brackets.





## TURN HATBOXES INTO BATHROOM STORAGE

These gussied-up “shelves” free up bathroom drawers and counterspace, offer easy access to extra towels and toiletries, and add peppy color to boot. Just choose boxes that are 10 to 12 inches deep and nail the backs to the wall.

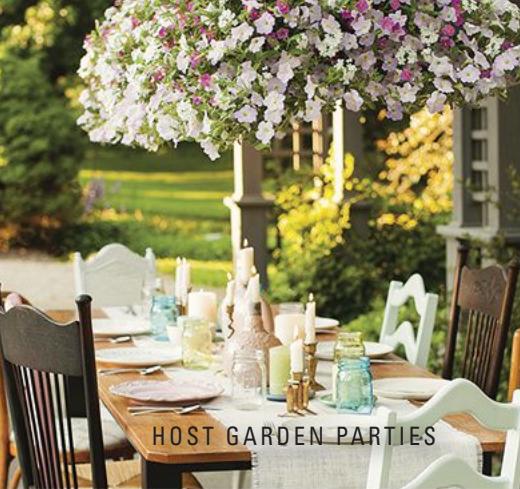
**FIND IT FAST:** Hatboxes, [vintagehatbox.com](http://vintagehatbox.com)

## TURN A SODA CRATE INTO A POTTING CADDY

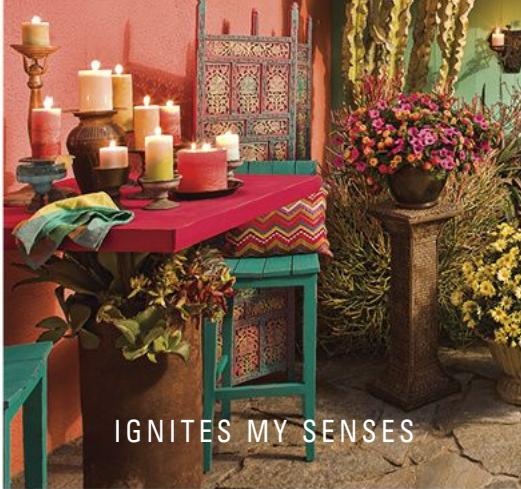
No more trips back and forth to the garden shed. With its dividers still intact, this rustic soda crate is ideal for toting around supplies, like 1 3/4-inch terra-cotta pots, bulbs, seed packets, and clippers.

**FIND IT FAST:** Crates, [thevintageroundtop.com](http://thevintageroundtop.com)





HOST GARDEN PARTIES



IGNITES MY SENSES



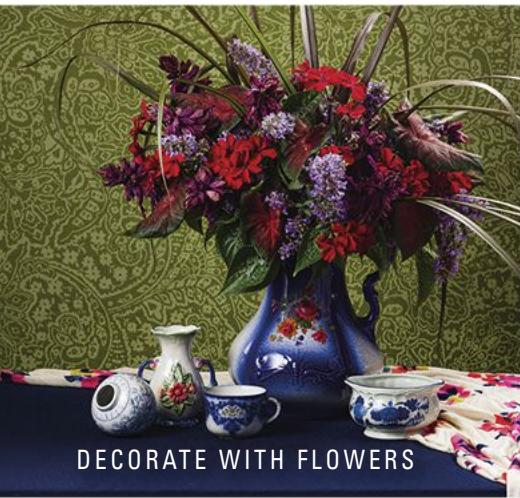
FLOWERS MAKE ME HAPPY



FUN COUPLES PROJECTS



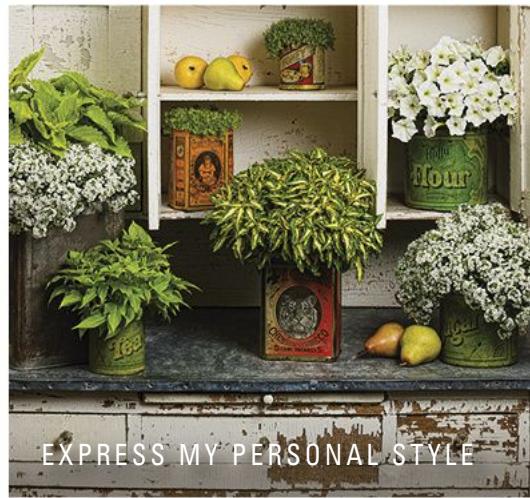
UPCYCLE WITH CREATIVE FLAIR



DECORATE WITH FLOWERS



EXTENDS MY LIVING SPACE



EXPRESS MY PERSONAL STYLE

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## TURN SCHOOL FLASHCARDS INTO PANTRY LABELS

Here's how to earn an A+ in organization: Catalog food storage containers with vintage flashcards—a nostalgic nod to childhood school days. Affix the cards to glass jars with decorative washi tape and metal crates with miniature clothespins. Fill to the brim with your favorite goodies. **FIND IT FAST:** Vintage flashcards, [ethelusvintage.etsy.com](http://ethelusvintage.etsy.com)

## TURN A WASHBOARD INTO A MESSAGE CENTER

The galvanized metal surface is magnetic, which makes this old-fashioned tool perfect for posting up papers. Use a simple picture hanger to mount it to the wall and attach cheerful magnets to keep track of notes, cards, and receipts.

**FIND IT FAST:** Washboard, [pungovintage.etsy.com](http://pungovintage.etsy.com)





## ORGANIZE YOUR JUNK...WITH JUNK!

We repurposed odds and ends from tag sales and flea markets to create the ultimate tidy junk drawer. Here's how.

### ① TURN YARDSTICKS INTO DRAWER DIVIDERS

Map out designated zones so you'll know how long to make each section. Use a handsaw to cut 1-inch square yardsticks into pieces with corresponding lengths. Stack two of each length to create 2-inch-high dividers; affix with hot-glue.

### ② TURN GELATIN MOLDS INTO SUPPLY COMPARTMENTS

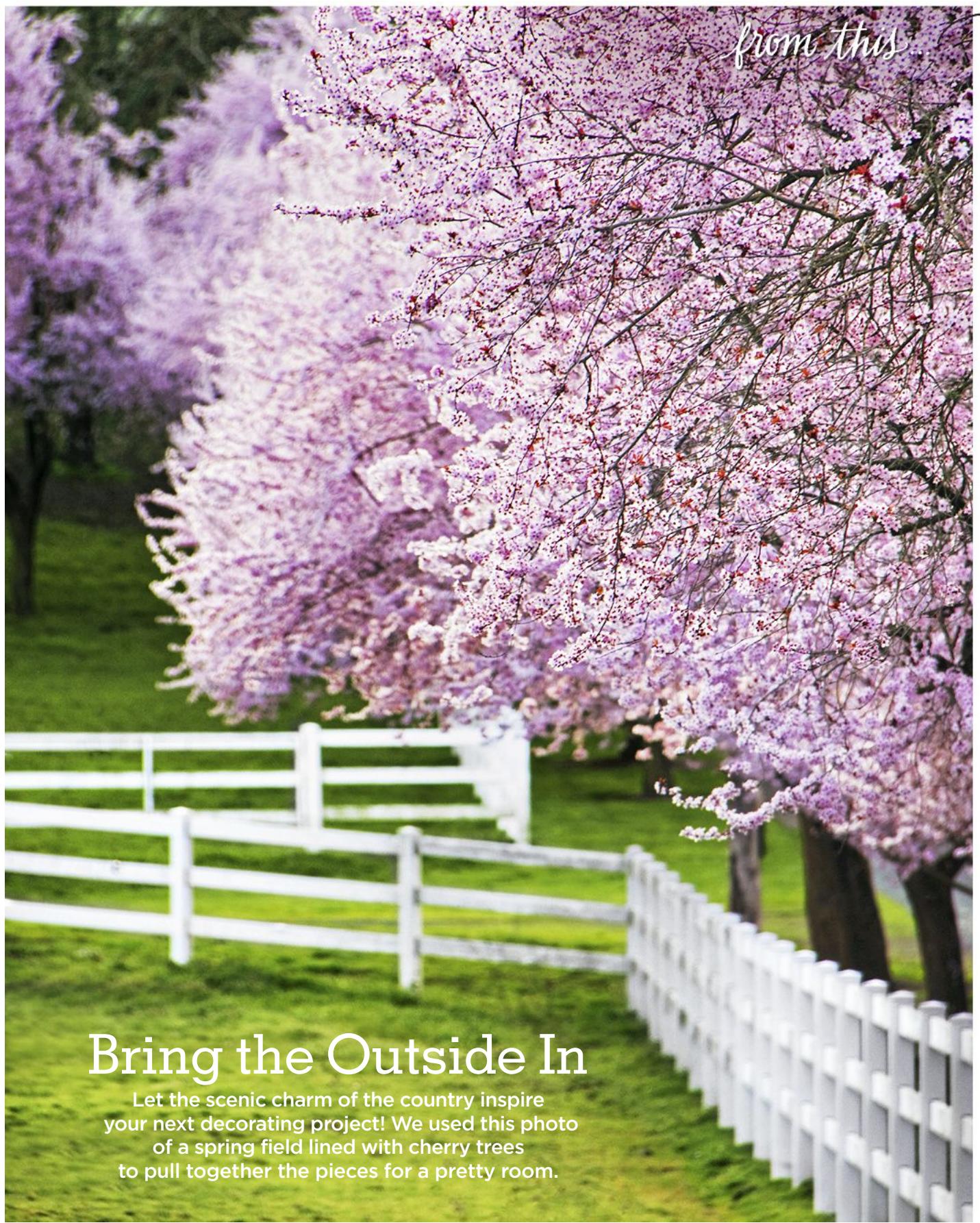
Rein in wayward items (such as rolling batteries) in these tin containers. (Mason jar lids will also do the trick.)

### ③ TURN WOODEN SPOOLS INTO CORD KEEPERS

Don't let wily cords wind you up. Instead, tightly curl them around antique bobbins. **FIND IT FAST:** Bobbins, [thevintageroundtop.com](http://thevintageroundtop.com)

### ④ TURN A MUFFIN TIN INTO A SMALL-PARTS HOLDER

No more digging around for push pins or paper clips, thanks to this mini muffin tin, spray-painted a cheery bright blue. (Note: Painted muffin tins are no longer food-safe.)



from this...

## Bring the Outside In

Let the scenic charm of the country inspire your next decorating project! We used this photo of a spring field lined with cherry trees to pull together the pieces for a pretty room.

to that!

# The Country-Inspired Workspace

Floor-to-ceiling essentials for a striking home office



## ROOM SPRAY

Infuse the air with a scent as pleasing as the blooms it's made from. **Cherry Blossom Home Spray**, \$20; [rosyrings.com](http://rosyrings.com)



## DESK

With two pull-out writing surfaces, this acacia wood piece is extra hardworking. **Campaign Desk**, \$230; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com)



## CHAIR

A vibrant paint job and rattan seat make this classic silhouette blossom. **Side Chair**, \$295; [serenaandlily.com](http://serenaandlily.com)



## PHONE DOCK

Now you can recharge in (retro) style, thanks to this white glazed base with a throwback design. **Porcelain Dock**, \$48; [jonathanadler.com](http://jonathanadler.com)



## BULLETIN BOARD

Fence in important inspiration photos, notes, and receipts on this white-painted wooden memo board. **Study Wall Board**, \$89; [pbteen.com](http://pbteen.com)



## PUSH PINS

No more rooting around for loose papers! **Thumbtacks**, \$8/set of 12; [theindoorgardenshop.etsy.com](http://theindoorgardenshop.etsy.com)



## STATIONERY

Pen a cheerful hello on this 10-piece set made from recycled paper. **Pink Lady Boxed Set**, \$29; [bellinvito.com](http://bellinvito.com)



## LIGHTING

Branch out from boring lamps with this resin base and satin shade pairing. **Branch Lamp**, \$40; [target.com](http://target.com) **Sydney Shade**, \$40; [lampsplus.com](http://lampsplus.com)



## PAINT

The perfect mixture of pink and purple, with a gray undertone that keeps it from going too sweet. **Pretty Orchid** by Valspar, [valspar.com](http://valspar.com) for stores

## RUG

This handmade, 100% jute rug will cultivate a cozy vibe. **Continental Green Area Rug**, \$95 for 3 1/2' x 5 1/2'; [wayfair.com](http://wayfair.com)

# Ask a Country Vet

Animal expert **DR. TRICIA EARLEY** shares her best advice for selecting a breed of chickens, treating feline allergies, and more.

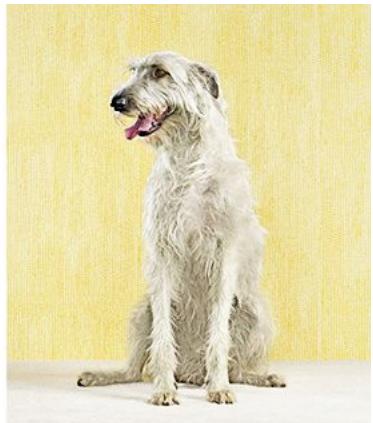


**Q** I'm considering raising chickens for their eggs.

Is there a particular breed that's good for a novice keeper?

-J.C., TITUSVILLE, FL

**A** If you ask a hundred chicken raisers which type they prefer, you'll get a hundred different answers. My vote? Rhode Island Reds. They're known for having an even temperament and producing an abundance of brown eggs. (A mature hen will lay more than 300 per year!) If white eggs are your preference, consider the leg-horn. These busy girls also produce more than 300 eggs annually but can be a bit moody. Local feed stores and hatchery catalogs such as Hoover's ([hoovershatchery.com](http://hoovershatchery.com)) and McMurray ([mcmurrayhatchery.com](http://mcmurrayhatchery.com)) stock these breeds. Good cluck!



**Q** My 2-year-old Irish wolfhound, Graem, has grown very protective of me and has been aggressive toward other dogs. Should I be concerned?

-S.H., OCEAN VIEW, DE

**A** If Graem is neutered, his behavior sounds like protective aggression, which can turn into a serious problem if unaddressed. Dogs are a social species and may become hostile if they feel a member of their pack (animal or human) is threatened. I recommend consulting with a certified applied animal behaviorist. (To find one in your area, visit [certifiedanimalbehaviorist.com](http://certifiedanimalbehaviorist.com).) These specialists can help pinpoint the root cause of aggression and then retrain pups to minimize their provocation. For example, if Graem has come to believe you're in danger when other dogs approach on an evening walk, the specialist will teach him to understand passersby are only a perceived threat.

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**Q** Should I take my  
bird feeder down  
when the weather  
warms up? -I.C., JACKSONVILLE, FL

**A** Some people choose to stop feeding birds during warmer months, when other food sources are readily available. But there are reasons to leave a feeder up, and full, year-round. For one, they provide a welcome source of nutrition for feathered friends making a long trip home from their wintering grounds. They'll also appreciate the extra food source when feeding their young. Meanwhile, you'll enjoy a rotating variety of birds outside your window as different species visit throughout the year.



**Q** The past few springs my indoor/outdoor cat, Bea, has broken out in hives. Should I consider having her allergy tested? -E.S., BELLINGHAM, MA

**A** Yes! Cats incur adverse skin reactions, like itchiness and scabbing, when exposed to allergens. If Bea's symptoms are limited to a specific season, an occasional dose of corticosteroids (an anti-inflammatory) may be all she needs. If the issue persists, your vet will likely try intradermal skin testing, a procedure in which antigens are injected under the skin and then monitored for reactions. The results will be used to formulate a custom vaccine. Administered every two to three weeks, it will gradually decrease sensitivity.



**HAVE A PET  
QUESTION?**

Drop Dr. Earley a line at [countryvet@countryliving.com](mailto:countryvet@countryliving.com)



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Two perfect servings of meat-first SHEBA® for a fresh meal every time.\* And no leftovers.

SHEBA® Pure Cat Appeal.™ [sheba.com](http://sheba.com)



A photograph of a courtroom interior set within a dense redwood forest. The courtroom features wooden benches for spectators and a large wooden gavel resting on the polished wooden bench in the foreground. Sunlight filters through the tall, thin redwood trees, creating bright rays of light and long shadows on the floor and walls. The overall atmosphere is one of a natural, serene setting for a courtroom.

# BECAUSE THE EARTH NEEDS A GOOD LAWYER

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BECAUSE THE EARTH NEEDS A GOOD LAWYER

# Country Living

March 2015



Download the cross-stitch  
pattern at [countryliving.com/  
cross-stitch](http://countryliving.com/cross-stitch).

XXXXXX

(Psst: Our Copy Chief Katie Bowlby  
stitched the one you see here.)



Outside, only the front door needed fixing. This blue-painted one brings in more light than the previous solid wood one did.

*The Makeover Issue*

# In With the Old

This New York farmhouse proves a mix of reclaimed materials, antique furniture, and vintage artwork is the *real* key to aging gracefully.

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WRITTEN BY LISA FREEMAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY MONICA BUCK  
STYLING BY RAINA KATTELS





**H**ow do you update a really, really old house without erasing its history? That was the challenge Gideon Friedman and Rachael Bedard faced when they bought a 1700s home in Earlton, New York. After going through many remodels over the (few hundred) years, the place had lost its authentic farmhouse style. Yet, despite the generic interiors, "we fell in love with the property," says Rachael, and "we wanted to put the 'country' back into this old farmhouse." Enter Tara Mangini and Percy Bright of design firm Jersey Ice Cream Company, who have a knack for reviving historic homes with old (or old-fashioned) stuff. Here's how they layered on the patina to steer this house back to its original country look.



Tara added a sense of mystery by tying a bundle of old letters to one painting.



## LIVING ROOM

With no real identity, this large room at the center of the house had become a pass-through space. Plus, the purple accent wall and hodgepodge of furniture made it anything but inviting.

**WHAT THEY SAVED:** The ceiling beams and wide-plank hardwood floors. "The house's original millwork was one of its most redeeming characteristics," says Rachael.

**WHAT THEY CHANGED:** Tara and Percy coated the walls with two tones of blue-gray plaster, which they tinted themselves. "Plaster walls felt more in keeping with the age of the house," says Tara. "The irregular texture adds old-world romance." The duo used patterned area rugs to subdivide the large room into more intimate zones with specific purposes. On a wall just off the tiny entry, a Shaker peg rack hung over a bench (far left) creates a

spot to pull off boots and hang up coats. Across the room, an antique sofa with its original cotton sateen floral upholstery and a pair of mismatched side tables transform a sunny, once-underused corner into a comfy reading nook.

**WHAT THEY ADDED:** A quirky arrangement of vintage botanical prints and oil paintings to reinforce the collected-over-time vibe.

*"We wanted to put the 'country' back into this old farmhouse."*

—RACHAEL BEDARD



**PERFECTLY  
IMPERFECT**  
Weathered and  
pieced together, the  
floors have truly  
authentic old-house  
character.

## BREAKFAST ROOM

From the linoleum-tiled floor covered with a nondescript gray rug to the matching furniture set and acid yellow walls, there was nothing particularly "country" about the decor.

**WHAT THEY SAVED:** The original painted hardwood floors, which were buried under three layers of linoleum tiles. Tara and Percy preserved as many planks as they could and patched in reclaimed barnwood for

the old boards that were damaged beyond repair.

**WHAT THEY CHANGED:** A flea market table and mismatched chairs picked up from yard sales give the room loads more personality than the original matching set did.

**WHAT THEY ADDED:** The reclaimed barnwood paneling, which serves pretty and practical purposes. It makes the space feel cozier and hides wear and tear better than painted walls.



## KITCHEN

Basic fixtures and finishes and a poorly planned layout offered little in the way of style or function.

**WHAT THEY SAVED:** The open shelves by the kitchen sink—perfect for keeping dry goods at the ready.

**WHAT THEY CHANGED:** Switching out the stainless steel sink that came with the house for an apron-front porcelain one boosts the room's charm.

**WHAT THEY ADDED:** Brass bin pulls, butcher block countertops, and a copper backsplash behind the range add warmth to the new gray cabinets.



Revere Pewter  
Benjamin Moore



## GUEST ROOM

Bulky wooden furniture made this snug bedroom feel cramped, not cozy.

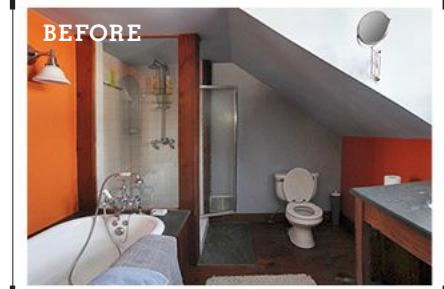
**WHAT THEY SAVED:** The unpainted finish on the wood windows and trim.

**WHAT THEY CHANGED:** Swapping out the chests and double bed for a pair of vintage iron twin beds and a painted

spindle-leg table opens up the tight quarters and offers more flexibility for hosting guests.

**WHAT THEY ADDED:** Wallpaper (see page 67) inspired by 18th-century botanical prints, which infuses the space with cheerful color and pattern in keeping with styles and motifs that were popular when the house was built.





## MASTER BATHROOM

Orange walls and an odd layout made it unwelcoming and uncomfortable.

**WHAT THEY SAVED:** The shower, which just received two simple updates: marble hexagonal tile (from The Home Depot) and canvas curtains.

**WHAT THEY CHANGED:** The designers installed an old copper sink basin (with two faucets) where the tub had been so that they could hang a mirror over it.

**WHAT THEY ADDED:** Antique sconces and a vintage tub (see page 67) bring back a sense of history to the space.



## MASTER BEDROOM

Walls painted not one, not two, but *three* different shades, plus a cascading crystal chandelier and four-poster bed, overwhelmed the room with clashing colors and styles.

**WHAT THEY SAVED:** The original bookshelves, even though that left no space for a traditional bedside table. Instead, a ceramic garden stool offers a spot to rest a book or glass of water and a wall-mounted brass sconce provides reading light.

**WHAT THEY CHANGED:** Tara and Percy covered over the colorful walls with reclaimed wood and painted the ceiling white. A built-in headboard made of the same material establishes a simple, rustic mood.

**WHAT THEY ADDED:** Accents in blue—the painted vase, the printed pillows, and striped quilt—continue the color thread that weaves throughout the house for a cohesive, soothing look.



## BEFORE



## BACK PORCH

Too many chairs all lined up made the 7-foot-wide space seem even more narrow. The red floor, along with white walls and gray shingles, didn't help.

**WHAT THEY SAVED:** The vintage wicker and rattan furniture. Rearranging it into seating groups made the space much more welcoming.

**WHAT THEY CHANGED:** Painting every surface the same deep blue shade transformed the once-choppy room into an ultra-cozy gathering space.

**WHAT THEY ADDED:** Colorful cushions, a round jute rug, and cafe lights strung from the ceiling. "People come out here and never want to leave," says Gideon. "It's magical."



#### MISMATCHED DISHES

"I love imagining the stories these old pieces could tell."

**Vintage White Dishware**  
starting at \$49/set of 4;  
[elsiegreen.com](http://elsiegreen.com)



#### VINTAGE ART

"One way to add instant character? Hang prints and paintings from all different styles and eras."

**Portrait Study No. 5** \$60; [threepotatofour.com](http://threepotatofour.com)



#### LINEN BEDDING

"Nothing makes a bed cozier than soft linen bedding. It's one of those so-worth-it luxuries."

**Linen Duvet Set** \$249; [parachutehome.com](http://parachutehome.com)

#### ANTIQUE FIXTURES

"This cast-iron tub, a Brimfield Antique Show find, adds authentic farmhouse character."

For a similar look, try [sa1969.com](http://sa1969.com).



#### RECLAIMED BARNWOOD

"Covering the walls with rough-hewn salvaged timbers made this house feel country again."

**Reclaimed Wood Paneling**  
from \$6/square foot; [elmwoodreclaimedtimber.com](http://elmwoodreclaimedtimber.com)

# what makes my home COUNTRY

"Wood details, soft textiles, plaster walls, and vintage artwork bring back the rustic charm of this house."

—Rachael Bedard



#### BRASS ACCENTS

"We picked hardware and lighting in this shiny surface to warm up all the wood."

**Bedford Canopy Cup Pull**  
\$4.50; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com)



#### WHIMSICAL WALLPAPER

"In these bright colors, this Secret Garden-like pattern is old-fashioned and fresh all at the same time."

**Apothecary's Garden Wallpaper**  
\$7/square foot; [trustworth.com](http://trustworth.com)



#### OLD BOOKS

"The previous owners left behind their soulful collection of early edition classic books—lucky us!"

**Vintage Books**  
\$39/square foot;  
[booksbylefoot.com](http://booksbylefoot.com)



*The Makeover Issue*

# Small Changes, Big Charm

Easy upgrades, cozy furniture, and a host of salvaged finds took this 1885 cottage from lackluster to brimming with personality at every turn.

WRITTEN BY CAROLINE COLLINS MCKENZIE | PHOTOGRAPHS BY MAX KIM-BEE  
STYLING BY CHRISTINA WRESSELL



*Trellis wallpaper lining the stair treads adds a modern motif among the many weathered finds.*



**N**o way!" That was Chris O'Shea's response when she first toured this once-decrepit bungalow in The Hamptons. But with a hard-to-come-by location at an even harder-to-come-by price, the 19th-century house was too good of a deal for her and partner Ashby Dodge to pass up. After opening up the fragmented downstairs, Chris infused the space with warmth and personality. Here, she shares 10 easy ways to get a layered, laid-back look.

## LIVING ROOM

**① KEEP IT LIGHT.** Bleached pine flooring and pale gray walls create an airy base that helps showcase—not compete with—Chris's rough-hewn furniture and charismatic decor. Bonus: The floor's soft shade camouflages the sand tracked in from the beach.

**② TURN COLLECTIONS INTO ART.** A vintage French postal sack (one of many Chris scored on a trip to Europe) mounted in a walnut frame makes a graphic statement with just as much impact as a large piece of artwork for a fraction of the cost.

**③ COZY UP THE CEILING.** White-painted beadboard gives the house's low, 8-foot ceilings a cheery cabin feel that's much more inviting than stark sheetrock—and far less expensive than raising the ceilings would have been.



**BEFORE** Drab single-pane windows and an ultra-narrow staircase made for an awkward, charmless living space.





3

2



1



4





**BEFORE** With a cramped layout, worn-out appliances, and bland cabinets and countertops, the kitchen felt more like a crowded corner than an inviting cookspace.

## KITCHEN AND DINING ROOM

### ④ HANG SALVAGED FIXTURES.

Chris's favorite design trick: Switch out run-of-the-mill pendants with antique versions for instant wow factor. With still-functioning pulleys, these industrial numbers (once used in a billiard hall) make for eye-catching (and hardworking) task lighting above the island.

### ⑤ MAKE A SPLASH WITH TILE.

Rather than stopping at a standard backsplash height, Chris took the kitchen tile to the ceiling for a dramatic effect. The ceramic tiles' concave centers and a milky-white glaze add an old-world texture that stands out next to the sleek new appliances.

### ⑥ BRING IN LOCAL ACCENTS.

The key to incorporating a beachy vibe without feeling themed? Choose pieces with patina and sophisticated color schemes. The black-hued chowder house sign and porthole (lined with a photo of ocean waves) above the bar cart, for example, achieve a chic, not cheesy, look.

### ⑦ REPURPOSE OLD FINDS.

The dining table proves a showstopper thanks to its massive circa 1800s corbels and bright blue shutters. Topped with a sheet of glass (cut with smooth, rounded edges), the sturdy combo anchors the eating area with memorable, one-of-a-kind style.





## SITTING ROOM

**⑧ DARE TO GO BIG.** Instead of more expected floor lamps, Chris illuminated this quaint nook with reproduction shipyard lanterns equipped with battery operated candles. At 3 1/2 feet tall, the lanterns make an impressive statement without filling up the small corner's limited floor space.

**⑨ SWAP OUT A SOFA FOR A DAYBED.** Outfitted with a ticking stripe mattress and an array of down pillows, this antique French daybed makes for a charming (and more nap friendly!) alternative to standard seating.

**⑩ MAKE IT OLD.** When Chris took a sander to this once-white hutch, she uncovered a striking shade of Robin's egg blue. "Distressed down to its original hue, this chippy piece adds the sort of perfectly imperfect character this house needed," says Chris.



**BEFORE** A woodburning stove encroached upon the windows, making furniture placement difficult. Parquet floors and a baseboard heater left the room feeling hopelessly dated.





#### WEATHERED FURNITURE

"Items with a bit of patina feel right at home in this 130-year-old cottage."

Blue Medallion Trunk \$320; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com)



#### CERAMIC TILE

"Textured and creamy, they put a rustic spin on standard white subway tile."

Atom Egg Shell  
\$16/square foot; [nemotile.com](http://nemotile.com)



#### SALVAGED FIXTURES

"Antique (or antique inspired) lighting instantly transforms a room. There's no faster way to make a cozy statement."

Owings Mill 15"  
Sconce \$288;  
[lampsplus.com](http://lampsplus.com)

#### HISTORIC COLORS

"Our bathroom walls were inspired by green planks we found lurking under the upstairs carpeting. I love the camp lodge vibe!"

Bunker Hill [benjaminmoore.com](http://benjaminmoore.com)



#### BLEACHED HARDWOODS

"Our house is near the beach—sand on your feet is not only tolerated but welcomed."

Bellawood Select from \$5/square foot; [lumberliquidators.com](http://lumberliquidators.com)

## what makes my home COUNTRY

"This house is (finally!) the open, inviting space we envisioned. Every room is meant to be lived in and every item is meant to be used and touched—there is nothing too precious for even the littlest hands."

—Chris O'Shea



#### VINTAGE ACCENTS

"We want every piece in our house to have a bit of history behind it."

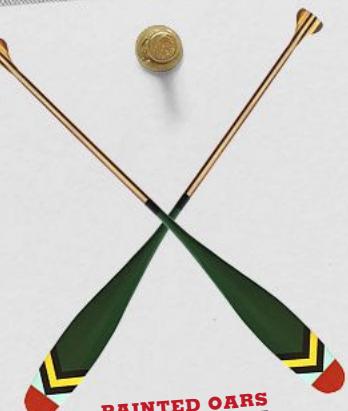
French Post Bag  
\$88; [myvintagefrenchhouse.etsy.com](http://myvintagefrenchhouse.etsy.com)



#### GRAPHIC WALLPAPER

"There's something unequivocally country about decorating every last corner and surface of your home, even the stairs!"

Aga Brown on Tint  
\$190/5-yard roll;  
[quadrillefabrics.com](http://quadrillefabrics.com)



#### PAINTED OARS

"You can't help but smile when you reach for our happy oar handrails."

Sanborn Canoe Paddle \$170 each;  
[domesticdomestic.com](http://domesticdomestic.com)



The Makeover Issue

# COTTAGE COMEBACK

From the outside, you'd have never guessed all the dirty little secrets this California home had to hide (Dated wallpaper! Multi-colored carpet!). Here's how designer Thea Segal took it back to its humble roots.



MASTER BEDROOM (before)

LIVING ROOM (before)





**T**HERE'S ALMOST NOTHING WORSE than feeling duped by an alluring first impression. That soul-sinking disappointment was just what designer Thea Segal experienced the first time she stepped inside the Studio City, California, house that she now calls home. From the street, the 1940s white clapboard cottage with a wide bay window and pair of dormers was cheerful and inviting. But inside the front door, nearly every inch was covered with something: outdated patterned wallpaper, equally outdated matching fabric, shockingly colorful carpet, fussy curtains, ornate molding—you get the gist. "When we drove up, I remember thinking, 'Yes! This is definitely the one,'" says Thea. "Then we went inside, and I almost cried." After adjusting to the initial shock, Thea weighed the house's, ahem, decorative touches alongside its spacious—but-cozy layout (sized just right for Thea and her two teenage sons, Daniel and Oliver) and prime location and decided it was worth the trouble to make it over. "The house had a good floor plan and was on a street full of friendly neighbors—the things that are difficult, if not impossible, to change," she says. "I felt like it was just begging me to liberate it from all the fancy and take it back to its unassuming origins." So with the help of her daughter (and business partner) Dorianne Loshitzer, Thea transformed each room from over-the-top and outdated to timeless and understated with her five essentials to country cottage style.

1  
KITCHEN



**1. SOOTHING NEUTRALS** Thea gave the kitchen a fresh start by gutting everything and starting over with a mellow gray-and-white palette that set a calm tone for the whole house. Instead of upper and lower cabinets throughout, she left the walls on the sink and window side bare and installed a built-in that resembles a freestanding cupboard over to one side. Although subtle, the color shift to gray helps the built-in hutch stand out in the sea of white and provides a touch of contrast for her collection of mismatched white and ivory dishware. Natural elements—vintage wooden cutting boards, the Shaker-style barstools' woven rush seats, and a faded antique wool runner—warm up the cool space.



**MASTER  
BEDROOM****BUILDING  
CHARACTER**

To make her bedroom feel brighter and airier, Thea vaulted the ceilings by opening up the attic space above.

**HOW SMART IS THIS?**

These built-in shelves are actually doors that open to storage closets for bulky items like suitcases.



3  
DEN

*“Vintage quilts, antique furniture, and repurposed tools give my suburban home more of an authentic country feel.”*

**2. SIMPLE MILLWORK** To add authentic character, Thea clad the once-wallpapered walls in her master bedroom with widely spaced wood battens typical of California cottages built during this era. She also swapped traditional, rounded baseboards for 7-inch-tall squared-off ones, a look inspired by the Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, which she visited as a child. Flat 5-inch-wide door and window trim completes the look.



4  
POWDER ROOM

**3. COZY BUILT-INS** Thea made the most of every inch of the den—and upped the cottage quotient—with charming built-ins that have clever storage. Here, she converted a former bedroom into a casual den by swapping out an affixed desk for a cushion-topped window seat that has a drawer underneath. She also replaced two sets of built-in drawers for a pair of storage closets (that store family photo albums) and installed bookshelves for other mementos. “It’s our favorite place to come together and reminisce,” says Thea.

**4. RUSTIC FIXTURES** Putting her experience as a furniture designer to use, Thea made many of the house’s stand-out pieces using salvaged farm supplies and unpainted, unadorned wood. In the powder room, a simple wooden stand (and holes drilled for plumbing) transforms a Dutch galvanized metal hay-collecting bin into a statement-making sink. “Repurposed old tools give my suburban home more of an authentic country feel.”





**5. SOULFUL ANTIQUES** In the living room, Thea simplified the setup by grouping no-frills upholstered seating around an 1800s pine farm table cut down to coffee table height. "I love the warmth and soul that vintage wood pieces like this one bring to a space," says Thea. "Beautiful old furniture provides a great opportunity to incorporate history into a home." The designer took the same thoughtful, well-edited approach to curating her collections as she did to furnishing the room: Every item on display is special to her, like the antique bicycle wheel she bought because it reminded her of her sons. "I'd rather be surrounded by a lot of meaning than a lot of things," says Thea.

*"I love the warmth and soul that vintage wood pieces bring to a space. Beautiful old furniture provides a great opportunity to incorporate history into a home."*

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**Apothecary Bottles,**  
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### **WHITE PITCHERS**

"I'm drawn to anything white—be it ceramic, enamel, whatever—that's not too ornate."

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### **SHAKER-STYLE FURNITURE**

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—Thea Segal



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### **PINE FURNITURE**

"Leaving wooden pieces raw and unpainted helps me feel more connected to the material and the artisan."

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just waiting to be restored to its  
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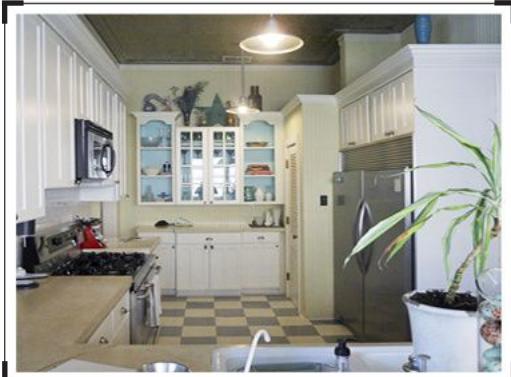


STYLING BY ANN LOWE.



**"IT ALL STARTED WITH A STOVE,"** says Courtney Clark of her Austin, Texas, kitchen makeover. "Every night on my way home from work, I would pass a kitchen shop with a blue range in the window," says Courtney. "I thought, 'Someday, I'll cook dinner on something that beautiful every night.' " That "someday" came sooner than Courtney expected, when she and her husband, Jamie, moved from Houston to Austin and bought a 1916 farmhouse in need of some serious attention. Layers of bad remodels (think yellow beadboard walls, vinyl flooring) had concealed its historic charm—most noticeably in the hodgepodge kitchen. So they splurged on the range, then called in architect Cindy Black of Hello Kitchen to help them revive the rest of the space.

**BEFORE**





## 8 WAYS TO BRING BACK CHARACTER

Cindy revitalized this ho-hum kitchen by uncovering original details and adding new (old-looking) accents.

1

### SHIPLAP WALLS

A single wash of milk paint freshens up the original rough-sawn beams without completely covering their irregularities.

2

### SWING-ARM SCONCES

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3

### WEATHERED SINK

Made of hammered zinc, this farmhouse fixture is just as durable as it is hardworking. Bonus: An extra-wide towel bar.

4

### PRESSED-TIN CEILING

To expose its entire perimeter, Cindy removed the crown molding and installed the new cabinets lower than the old ones.

5

### CUSTOM CABINETRY

Tall, locker-style doors open to reveal a built-in pantry complete with a butcher-block counter for extra prep space.

6

### CONCEALED APPLIANCES

Shaker-style panels that match the cabinetry prevent sleek appliances from being eyesores.

7

### BUILT-IN HUTCH

With arched doors and a navy-painted back, this built-in china cabinet is a striking focal point in the narrow space.

8

### HEAVY-DUTY HARDWARE

From the cremone bolts (used as window and door locks in Europe) to the satin nickel pulls, the hutch's hefty handles add handcrafted charm.

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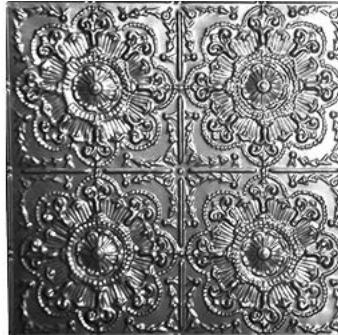
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## A PERFECT TIN

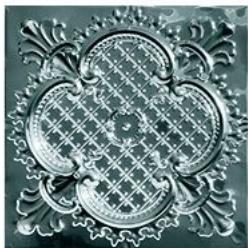
Four more iconic takes on this country kitchen staple. (All from [decorativeceilings.net](http://decorativeceilings.net))



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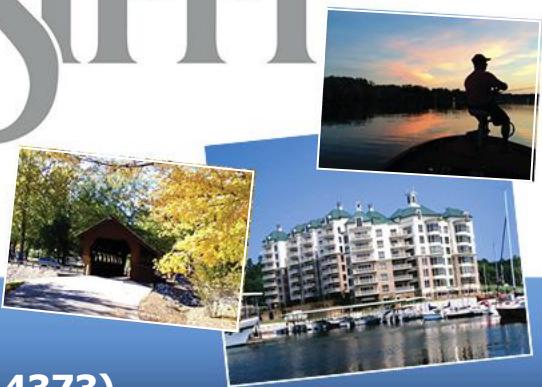
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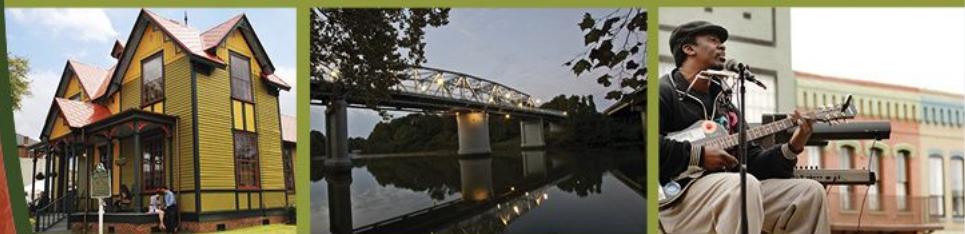
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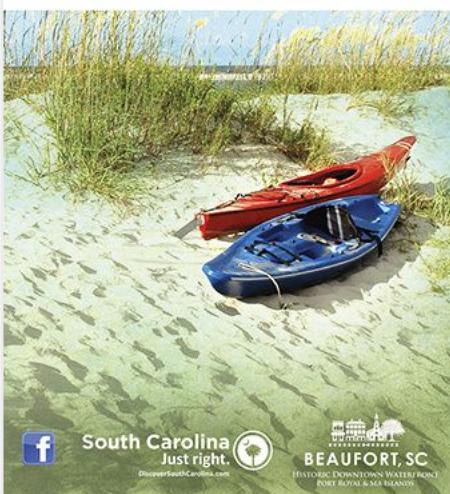
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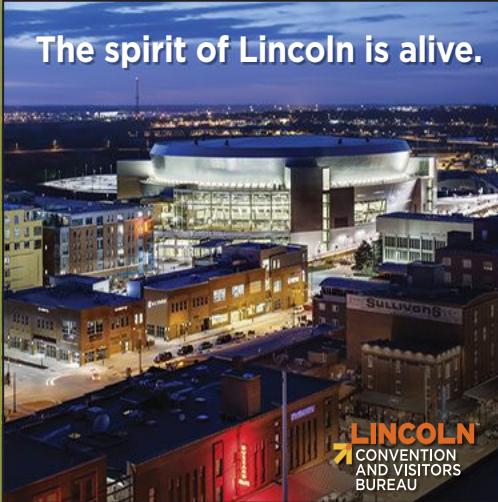


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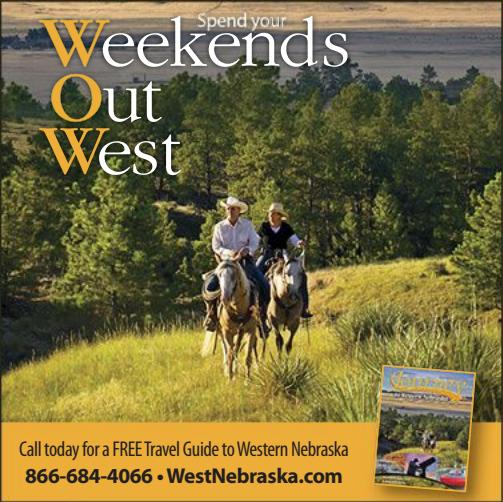


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WINNER DINNERS

# Spring Chicken

Update a weeknight supper standby with these fast ideas for boneless, skinless breasts.

Skillet  
Chicken and  
Spring  
Vegetables



## Skillet Chicken and Spring Vegetables

MAKES 4 servings

WORKING TIME 25 minutes

TOTAL TIME 25 minutes

Swap in other spring veggies like sliced baby carrots, green peas, or blanched new potatoes.

**4** boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 1½ pounds total)

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

**3** tablespoons cold unsalted butter, divided

**1** large shallot, chopped

**1/3** cup dry white wine

**1 ½** cups snow peas

**1 ½** cups sugar snap peas

**1 ½** cups sliced asparagus spears

**1** large garlic clove, finely chopped

**1 to 2** tablespoons chopped fresh tarragon

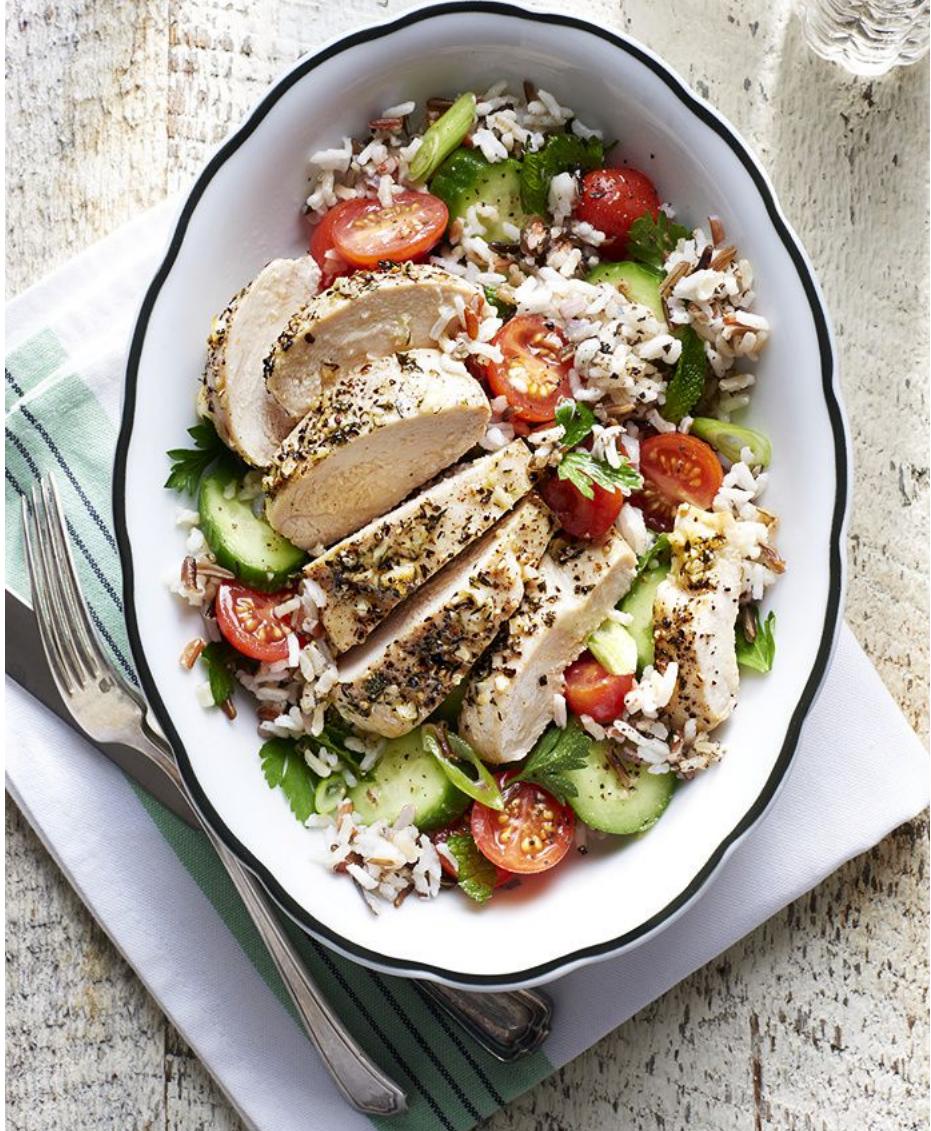
**2** teaspoons lemon zest

**1.** Season chicken with 1¼ teaspoons salt and ¾ teaspoon pepper. Melt 1 tablespoon butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add chicken and cook until deep golden brown, 4 to 6 minutes. Turn, reduce heat to medium, and cook until the internal temperature reaches 165°F, 6 to 8 minutes. Remove to a plate.

**2.** Increase heat to medium-high. Add shallot to skillet and cook until softened, about 1 minute. Stir in wine and cook, scraping brown bits from bottom of skillet, until reduced by three-quarters, 1 to 2 minutes. Stir in both peas and asparagus and sauté until just tender, 2 to 4 minutes. Stir in garlic and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Fold in tarragon and remaining 2 tablespoons butter. Season with salt and pepper.

**3.** Serve sprinkled with lemon zest.

**PER SERVING:** protein: 38 g; fat: 13 g; carbohydrate: 9 g; fiber: 3 g; sodium: 821 mg; cholesterol: 117 mg; calories: 318.



## Greek Chicken with Tomato-and-Rice Salad

MAKES 4 servings

WORKING TIME 20 minutes

TOTAL TIME 40 minutes

**1** tablespoon finely grated lemon zest plus 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

**1** tablespoon chopped fresh thyme

**1 ½** teaspoons Greek seasoning

**5** tablespoons olive oil, divided

**3** garlic cloves, minced and divided

**4** boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 1½ pounds total)

**1/3** cup dry white wine

**1** cup royal rice blend

**1** cup halved grape tomatoes

**3** small baby cucumbers, sliced

**3** scallions, sliced

**1** cup fresh flat-leaf parsley

**1/4** cup sliced fresh mint

**2** ounces crumbled feta cheese (about 1/2 cup)

**1.** Preheat oven to 400°F.

**2.** Combine lemon zest, thyme, Greek seasoning, 2 tablespoons oil, and 2 garlic cloves in a bowl. Rub on chicken. Pour wine into an 11-by-7-inch baking dish and top with chicken. Bake until the internal temperature reaches 165°F, 28 to 30 minutes. Allow chicken to rest for 5 minutes before slicing.

**3.** Meanwhile, prepare rice according to package directions. Transfer rice to a bowl and stir in tomatoes, cucumbers, scallions, parsley, mint, feta, lemon juice, remaining 3 tablespoons oil, and remaining clove garlic.

**4.** Serve rice salad warm or at room temperature topped with chicken.

**PER SERVING:** protein: 42 g; fat: 26 g; carbohydrate: 42 g; fiber: 5 g; sodium: 228 mg; cholesterol: 107 mg; calories: 563.



## Baked Coconut Tenders with Strawberry-Mango Salsa

**MAKES 4 servings**  
**WORKING TIME 20 minutes**  
**TOTAL TIME 36 minutes**

**Vegetable cooking spray**  
**3 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 1 pound total)**  
**Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper**  
**1/2 cup cornstarch**  
**1 1/2 teaspoons garlic powder**  
**2 large eggs, beaten**  
**1 cup sweetened flaked coconut**  
**1 cup panko bread crumbs**  
**1 teaspoon paprika**  
**Strawberry-Mango Salsa**  
**Lime wedges, for serving**

**1.** Preheat oven to 425°F. Set an oven-proof wire rack on a rimmed baking sheet and spray with cooking spray.  
**2.** Cut chicken into 1/2- to 3/4-inch-thick strips. Season with salt and pepper. Stir together cornstarch and garlic in a shallow dish. Place egg

in a second shallow dish. Stir together coconut, breadcrumbs, paprika, and 1/2 teaspoon each salt and pepper in a third shallow dish.

- Working one piece at a time, dip chicken in cornstarch mixture, then in the egg mixture, then in coconut mixture, pressing gently to help adhere. Transfer to the greased rack. Spray chicken with cooking spray until well coated.
- Bake until golden brown and cooked through, 16 to 20 minutes.
- Serve with Strawberry-Mango Salsa and lime wedges.

**STRAWBERRY-MANGO SALSA:** Combine 3/4 cup each finely chopped fresh **strawberries** and **mango**, 1/2 cup finely chopped small **shallot**, 2 tablespoons chopped fresh **cilantro**, 1 tablespoon **hot pepper jelly**, and 1 tablespoon fresh **lime juice**, and **salt** and **pepper**. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

**PER SERVING:** protein: 28 g; fat: 14 g; carbohydrate: 49 g; fiber: 3 g; sodium: 475 mg; cholesterol: 156 mg; calories: 436.

## Grilled Buffalo Chicken Sandwiches

**MAKES 4 servings / WORKING TIME 25 minutes / TOTAL TIME 40 minutes**

**1/2 cup hot sauce (such as Frank's)**  
**1/4 cup unsalted butter, melted**  
**3 tablespoons ketchup**  
**4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 1 1/2 pounds total)**  
**Hamburger buns, split**

**1/2 cup ranch dressing**

### Blue Cheese-Apple Slaw

- Preheat grill to medium-high.
- Combine hot sauce, butter, and ketchup in a bowl; reserve 1/4 cup mixture. Add chicken to remaining mixture and toss to coat. Marinate, 20 minutes. Remove chicken from marinade; discard marinade.
- Grill chicken, covered, until the internal temperature reaches 165°F, 5 to 7 minutes per side. Grill buns until lightly toasted, 1 to 2 minutes. Spread dressing on buns.
- Serve chicken topped with Blue Cheese-Apple Slaw and drizzled with reserved sauce between buns.

**BLUE CHEESE-APPLE SLAW:** Combine 1 cup packed shredded **savoy cabbage**, 1 small sliced **apple**, 2 thinly sliced **celery ribs**, 1.5 ounces crumbled **blue cheese** (about 1/3 cup), 1/4 cup coarsely chopped fresh **flat-leaf parsley**, 1 thinly sliced **shallot**, 3 tablespoons **olive oil**, 1 1/2 tablespoons **apple cider vinegar**, 1/2 teaspoon **sugar**, and **salt** and **pepper**.

**PER SERVING:** protein: 42 g; fat: 38 g; carbohydrate: 33 g; fiber: 3 g; sodium: 1138 mg; cholesterol: 125 mg; calories: 645.





## Lemony Chicken and Dill Soup

**MAKES 8 servings**  
**WORKING TIME 20 minutes**  
**TOTAL TIME 45 minutes**

**2 tablespoons olive oil**  
**3 medium carrots, sliced**  
**3 stalks celery, sliced**  
**1/2 medium onion, chopped**  
**3 garlic cloves, finely chopped**  
**8 cups low-sodium chicken broth**  
**3 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 1 pound total)**  
**2 bay leaves**  
**3 sprigs fresh thyme**  
**Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper**

**2/3 cup orzo**

**4 cups packed fresh baby spinach**  
**3 tablespoons chopped fresh dill**  
**1 tablespoon finely grated lemon zest plus 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice**  
**Garlic Toast**

**1.** Heat oil in a dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add carrots, celery, onion, and garlic and saute until onions are soft, 4 to 6 minutes. Add broth, chicken, bay leaves, and thyme. Season with salt and pepper. Cover and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until the internal temperature of chicken reaches 165°F, 24 to 26 minutes.

**2.** Discard bay leaves and thyme sprigs. Remove chicken to a bowl and shred,

with two forks, into bite-size pieces. Stir pasta into broth and cook until tender, 8 to 10 minutes. Add spinach, dill, lemon zest, lemon juice, and shredded chicken. Season with salt and pepper.

**3.** Serve with Garlic Toast.

**GARLIC TOAST:** Arrange a 1/2-pound **baguette** (sliced 3/4-inch thick) in a single layer on a baking sheet. Stir together 1/4 cup **olive oil** and 2 finely chopped **garlic cloves** and brush over bread. Season with **salt** and **pepper**. Bake at 375°F until crisp and golden, 8 to 10 minutes.

**PER SERVING:** protein: 24 g; fat: 14 g; carbohydrate: 39 g; fiber: 3 g; sodium: 286 mg; cholesterol: 31 mg; calories: 366.

BETTER WITH

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Whether it's spread on toast or baked in a biscuit, there's perhaps no more beloved, more country ingredient than butter. What's even better than a good ol' store-bought stick? A homemade batch—no milking or churning required! Start with our easy base recipe, then add flavorful stir-ins or bake up an iconic buttery treat, from cookies to cupcakes. *Whip, whip hooray!*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN WOODCOCK • RECIPES AND FOOD STYLING BY MARIAN COOPER CAIRNS  
PROP STYLING BY MARY CLAYTON CARL

See page 96  
for recipes

**Sweet Hot**



**Ginger Curry**



**Blue Cheese Horseradish**



**Blackberry Lime**



**Bourbon Maple Nut**



**Smoky Sundried Tomato**



**Spring Herb**



**Citrus Serrano**



**Milk Chocolate Raspberry**



# THE EASIEST EVER HOMEMADE BUTTER

In recent years, homespun techniques, from canning to cheesemaking, have made a comeback. The latest? Making your own butter! All you need is an ordinary electric stand mixer and a little cheesecloth. Trust us: You'll have it down pat in no time!

## Homemade Butter

MAKES  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup / WORKING TIME 15 minutes / TOTAL TIME 15 minutes

Cheesecloth

2 cups heavy whipping cream  
Fine sea salt (optional)

Forgo the salt if you plan to use the butter for baking.

1. Layer a strainer with three layers of cheesecloth and set over a bowl.

2. Whisk cream on high speed with an electric stand mixer until pale yellow and liquid separates from solids, 8 to 10 minutes. Transfer to the lined strainer. Gather cheesecloth around the solids and knead, forming a ball and squeezing out excess liquid. Rinse well under cold water. Remove from cheesecloth and pat dry with paper towels. Season with salt, if desired. Shape into a log. Use immediately or chill, wrapped in plastic, up to 2 weeks.

Don't toss the liquid. It's sweet buttermilk!

## PERKED UP PATS

Dress up your homemade butter (or  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup store-bought unsalted butter) with one of these tasty stir-in combos. Simply soften and beat in.

**SWEET HOT:** 2 tablespoons **red pepper jelly**, 2 tablespoons **Sriracha**,  $\frac{3}{4}$  teaspoon freshly ground **black pepper**, and **salt** to taste

**GINGER CURRY:** 3 tablespoons finely chopped **fresh cilantro**, 1 finely chopped **scallion**, 2 teaspoons grated fresh **ginger**, 2 teaspoons **madras curry powder**, and **salt** and freshly ground **black pepper**

**BLUE CHEESE HORSERADISH:** 1½ ounces crumbled **blue cheese** (about  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup), 2 tablespoons sliced fresh **chives**, 1 tablespoon prepared **horseradish**, and freshly ground **black pepper**

**BLACKBERRY LIME:** 3 tablespoons **blackberry preserves**, 1 tablespoon each **lime zest** and **juice**

**BOURBON MAPLE NUT:**  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup finely chopped **roasted salted almonds**, 2 tablespoons **maple syrup**, 1½ tablespoons **bourbon**

**SMOKY SUNDRIED TOMATO:**  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup minced **sun-dried tomatoes**, 2 teaspoons **smoked paprika**,  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon **cayenne pepper**, and **salt** and freshly ground **black pepper**

**SPRING HERB:** 1 tablespoon each of finely chopped fresh **flat-leaf parsley**, fresh **tarragon**, fresh **mint**, fresh **chives**, and fresh **dill**, 1 finely chopped **scallion**, and **salt** and freshly ground **black pepper**

**CITRUS SERRANO:** 1 tablespoon each **lime**, **lemon**, and **orange zest**, 1 large minced **garlic clove**, 1 minced **Serrano pepper**, and **salt** and freshly ground **black pepper**

**MILK CHOCOLATE RASPBERRY:** 1½ ounces finely chopped **milk chocolate**, 2 tablespoons **raspberry preserves**, 1 teaspoon **pure vanilla extract**

## GET BAKING WITH BUTTER

For these recipes, you'll need one to two batches of our Easiest Ever Homemade Butter, or simply unwrap a few store-bought sticks.

### IF YOU LOVE POUND CAKE, TRY...

#### Orange Blossom Bundt

MAKES 10 servings / WORKING TIME 30 minutes / TOTAL TIME 3 hours, 15 minutes

This Bundt cake can be made up to two days ahead. Its shape is courtesy of a "heritage" pan, which can be found on amazon.com.

1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature, plus more for the pan

2½ cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled, plus more for the pan

2 cups sugar

¾ teaspoon fine salt

2 tablespoons orange liqueur

1 tablespoon orange zest, plus more for garnish

2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract

5 large eggs, at room temperature

½ cup buttermilk

#### Honey Butter Glaze

1. Preheat oven to 325°F. Butter and flour a 10-cup Bundt pan.

2. Beat butter on medium speed with an electric mixer until light and fluffy, 2 to 3 minutes. Gradually beat in sugar and salt until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Beat in orange liqueur, orange zest, and vanilla. Reduce mixer speed to low and add eggs, one at a time, beating just until blended after each addition. Add flour alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour, beating just until blended after each addition.

3. Spoon batter into the prepared pan. Gently tap pan on counter a few times to remove any air bubbles. Bake, rotating pan once, until a long wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean, 1 hour to 1 hour and 5 minutes.

4. During last 10 minutes of baking, prepare Honey Butter Glaze. Spoon two-thirds of warm glaze over cake in pan, allowing glaze to soak in

Orange Blossom  
Bundt





Butter Buttons

between spoonfuls. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack. Invert onto cooling rack. Warm remaining glaze and gradually brush outsides of cake. Garnish with orange zest.

**HONEY BUTTER GLAZE:** Bring 1/2 cup **honey**, 1/4 cup **orange liqueur**, 6 tablespoons **unsalted butter**, and 3 tablespoons **sugar** to a boil in a saucepan over medium heat, stirring often, until the sugar is dissolved. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer, stirring constantly, until thickened, 2 minutes.

#### IF YOU LOVE SHORTBREAD, TRY...

### Butter Buttons

**MAKES 32 cookies / WORKING TIME 25 minutes / TOTAL TIME 2 hours**

*These melt-in-your-mouth shortbread cookies are perfect for spring parties and can be made up to 3 days in advance. Just store them in an airtight container at room temperature.*

**2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled**

**3/4 teaspoon fine salt**

**1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature**

**2 cups confectioners' sugar, divided**

**1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract**

Brown Butter Crispy Treats



**1.** Preheat oven to 350°F. Whisk together flour and salt in a bowl. Beat butter on medium speed with an electric mixer until creamy, 2 to 3 minutes. Gradually beat in 3/4 cup sugar, until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Beat in vanilla. Gradually add flour mixture, beating just until dough comes together.

**2.** Shape dough into 32 (1 1/4-inch round) balls (about 1 tablespoon each). Chill, covered, at least 1 hour or overnight.

**3.** Place balls, 1-inch apart, on a baking sheet. Bake, rotating baking sheet once, until golden on the bottom, 18 to 20 minutes.



**4.** Working one at a time, gently roll warm cookies in remaining 1 1/4 cups sugar; reserve remaining sugar. Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool completely. Sprinkle cookies with reserved sugar.

#### IF YOU LOVE CRISPY RICE BARS, TRY...

### Brown Butter Crispy Treats

**MAKES** 24 to 30 servings / **WORKING TIME** 15 minutes / **TOTAL TIME** 30 minutes

*Don't walk away while browning the butter—it will turn to just the right shade of brown in a flash.*

**3/4 cup** (1 1/2 sticks) **unsalted butter**, plus more for the pan  
**16 ounces** marshmallows



**3/4 teaspoon** flaky sea salt, plus more for garnish

**12 cups** crispy rice cereal

**1.** Butter a 13-by-9-inch or two 11-by-7-inch baking pans. Melt butter in a large Dutch oven over medium heat. Cook, stirring constantly, until browned, 4 to 6 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in marshmallows, until smooth. Stir in salt and cereal.

**2.** Press into buttered pan. Sprinkle with a few pinches of salt. Cool completely. Cut into bars.

#### IF YOU LOVE VANILLA CAKE, TRY... **Buttermilk Cupcakes**

**MAKES** 24 cupcakes / **WORKING TIME** 20 minutes / **TOTAL TIME** 1 hour

*Make up to two days ahead. Top with any edible flower (we used pansies).*

**2 1/2 cups** all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled

**1 3/4 teaspoons** baking powder

**3/4 teaspoon** fine salt

**14 tablespoons** (1 3/4 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature

**1 3/4 cups** sugar

**4 large** eggs

**2 teaspoons** vanilla bean paste or pure vanilla extract

**3/4 cup buttermilk**  
**Swiss Meringue Buttercream**  
**Edible flowers, for garnish**

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Line 2 standard 12-cup muffin pans.
2. Whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt in a bowl. Beat butter on medium speed with an electric mixer until creamy, 2 to 3 minutes. Gradually beat in sugar, until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Reduce mixer speed to low and beat in eggs, 1 at a time, just until blended after each addition. Beat in vanilla. Beat in flour mixture alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour mixture, just until blended after each addition.
3. Transfer batter to lined cups. Bake, rotating pans once, until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 24 to 26 minutes. Cool in pans on a wire rack, 15 minutes; transfer to the rack to cool completely. Frost with buttercream and garnish with edible flowers.

## Swiss Meringue Buttercream

**MAKES 3 1/2 cups / WORKING TIME 20 minutes / TOTAL TIME 20 minutes**

*Make up to two days ahead. Store in an airtight container in the fridge. Bring to room temperature before using.*

**1 cup sugar**  
**4 large egg whites**  
**1 1/2 cups (3 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature**  
**2 teaspoons vanilla bean paste or pure vanilla extract**

**Yellow food coloring (optional)**

1. Combine sugar and egg whites in a metal bowl. Place bowl over a saucepan of simmering water (make sure the bottom of the bowl does not touch the water) and cook, whisking constantly, until sugar is dissolved and mixture registers 160°F on an instant-read thermometer, 4 to 6 minutes.
2. Whisk on medium speed with an electric mixer until fluffy and cooled, 9 to 11 minutes. Reduce mixer speed to medium-low; add butter, one tablespoon at a time, whisking well after each addition. Whisk in vanilla and, if desired, food coloring.

## IF YOU LOVE BISCUITS, TRY...

### Perfectly Buttery Cream Scones

**MAKES 8 scones / WORKING TIME 15 minutes / TOTAL TIME 55 minutes**

*This slightly sweet scone will become your new go-to recipe.*

**2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled**  
**1/3 cup sugar**  
**1 tablespoon baking powder**  
**1/2 teaspoon fine salt**  
**1/2 cup (1 stick) cold unsalted butter, cut up**  
**1 cup heavy whipping cream, divided**  
**1 large egg, beaten**  
**Buttermilk Glaze**

1. Preheat oven to 425°F. Whisk together flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt in a bowl. Cut butter into flour mixture with two forks or a pastry blender until crumbly and mixture resembles small peas. Freeze until butter is hard, 14 to 16 minutes. Add cream stirring with a fork just until dry ingredients are moistened. Gently knead into a ball in the bowl.
2. Turn dough out onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Pat dough into an 8-inch circle (about 3/4- to 1-inch thick). Cut into 8 wedges; separate wedges about 1/2 inch. Brush with egg.
3. Bake, rotating baking sheet once, until golden brown and center is firm, 22 to 25 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack; cool 10 minutes. Drizzle with Buttermilk Glaze.

## BUTTER BY THE NUMBERS

Baking recipes usually call for butter by the cup or tablespoon. Use this chart to determine how many sticks you'll need.

**BUTTERMILK GLAZE:** Whisk together 1 cup **confectioners' sugar**, 2 tablespoons **buttermilk**, and 1/2 teaspoon **pure vanilla extract** in a bowl until smooth.

## 4 MORE WAYS TO TRY IT

*Add a flavorful twist to Perfectly Buttery Cream Scones. Keep it sweet with tangerine-rosemary or make them savory by adding feta or country ham.*

**TANGERINE-ROSEMARY:** Omit Buttermilk Glaze. Whisk 1 tablespoon **tangerine zest**, 1/3 cup **tangerine marmalade**, and 1 tablespoon finely chopped **fresh rosemary** into cream. Microwave 1/4 cup **tangerine marmalade** and 1 teaspoon finely chopped **fresh rosemary** until just melted. Brush over warm scones. Garnish with small **rosemary sprig**.

**SCALLION AND FETA:** Reduce sugar to 2 tablespoons and omit Buttermilk Glaze. Toss 3 thinly sliced **scallions**, 4 ounces crumbled **feta** (about 1 cup), and 2 teaspoons cracked **black pepper** into flour mixture before adding cream.

**BLUEBERRY LAVENDER:** Toss 6 ounces **blueberries**, 1 tablespoon **lemon zest**, and 2 teaspoons finely crushed **lavender blossoms** into flour mixture. Sprinkle glazed scones with a few **lavender blossoms**.

**HAM, JALAPEÑO, AND CHEDDAR:** Reduce sugar to 2 tablespoons. Toss 1/2 cup finely chopped **country ham**, 4 ounces shredded **extra sharp Cheddar** (about 1 cup), and 1 minced **jalapeño** into flour mixture. Top dough wedges with **jalapeño** slices before baking.

CUPS	TABLESPOONS	STICKS
1/4	4	1/2
1/2	8	1
3/4	12	1 1/2
1	16	2
1 1/4	20	2 1/2
1 1/2	24	3
1 3/4	28	3 1/2
2	32	4



Perfectly Buttery Cream Scones

# Clever Clover

Use a heart-shaped cookie cutter to create a shamrock from traditional Irish quick bread dough.



## Shamrock Soda Bread

**MAKES 6 servings**

**WORKING TIME 20 minutes**

**TOTAL TIME 50 minutes**

*Don't toss those dough scraps! Gently knead them into a small loaf, cut an X in the top, and bake alongside your shamrock.*

**3** cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled, plus more for work surface  
**1/4** cup packed light brown sugar  
**2** teaspoons baking powder  
**1** teaspoon fine salt  
**3/4** teaspoon baking soda  
**6** tablespoons cold unsalted butter, cut up, plus more, softened, for serving  
**1/2** cup golden raisins  
**1/2** cup currants  
**2** teaspoons caraway seeds  
**1** cup buttermilk  
**1/2** cup sour cream  
**1** large egg

**1.** Preheat oven to 375°F. Whisk together flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, and baking soda in a bowl. Add butter and cut in, with two forks or a pastry blender, until well combined. Add raisins, currants, and caraway seeds and stir to combine. In a separate bowl, whisk together buttermilk and sour cream. Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir until dry ingredients are moistened.

**2.** Turn dough out onto a floured work surface and gather into a ball. Knead until smooth, 8 to 10 times. Pat to circle, 1 inch thick. Cut out 3 hearts using a 3 1/2-inch heart-shaped cutter. Arrange in a clover shape on a parchment-lined baking sheet.

**3.** Cut a strip of dough 1 inch wide by 3 1/2 inches long from scraps, and attach to clover to make a stem. Whisk together egg and 1 tablespoon water, and brush on top and edges of clover.

**4.** Bake until golden brown, 26 to 30 minutes.

**5.** Serve warm or at room temperature with softened butter.

# resource guide

YOUR GO-TO GUIDE FOR REPLICATING THE LOOKS IN THIS ISSUE



## COVER

**Hudson settee**, \$899; [ballard.com](http://ballard.com). **Pigeon coffee table**, \$770; [bungalowclassic.com](http://bungalowclassic.com). **Lucy Juniper rug**, \$608; [dashandalbert.com](http://dashandalbert.com). **Sunshine buffalo check**, \$23/yard; [calico.com](http://calico.com). **Paule Marrot Beatrice Blanc pillow**, \$195; [biscuit-home.com](http://biscuit-home.com). **Potato Print pillow** in blue slate, \$139; [rebeccaatwood.com](http://rebeccaatwood.com).



## THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE TO JADEITE

**page 21 Cabinetry**, Cannon Custom Woodwork, Inc., Trussville, AL 205-467-2836. **Polka-dot wallpaper**, \$5/square foot; [spoonflower.com](http://spoonflower.com).



## WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS IT WORTH?

**page 30 Mailbox**; [pastclassics.etsy.com](http://pastclassics.etsy.com). **page 31 Luggage**; [hingemodernvintage.etsy.com](http://hingemodernvintage.etsy.com). **page 32 Rosmaling box**; [rubylane.com](http://rubylane.com).



## IN WITH THE OLD

**page 61 Round brass tray**, \$135; [schoolhouseelectric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com). **page 62 Vermont Heritage slice board**, \$175; [farmhousepottery.com](http://farmhousepottery.com). **page 63 Stuga linen pot polder**, \$22; [teroforma.com](http://teroforma.com). **Beehive crocks**, from \$42; [farmhousepottery.com](http://farmhousepottery.com). **page 64 Blue Ion lamp**, \$129; [schoolhouseelectric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com). **Dash & Albert cotton rug**, from \$33; [hammertown.com](http://hammertown.com). **page 65 Months toothbrush set**, \$12.50; [izola.com](http://izola.com). **Birmingham black woven cotton rug**,

from \$33; [hammertown.com](http://hammertown.com). **Clary sage candle**, \$35; [izola.com](http://izola.com). **Scroll pillow**, \$110; [shopthomaspaul.com](http://shopthomaspaul.com). **page 66 Ikat pillow**, \$96; [shopthomaspaul.com](http://shopthomaspaul.com). **Striped Shibori tangerine pillow**, \$225; [rebeccaatwood.com](http://rebeccaatwood.com).



## SMALL CHANGES, BIG CHARM

**page 73 Biscayne armchair**, \$325; [lostine.com](http://lostine.com). **page 74 Monsoon ikat pillow**, \$115; [allemsstudio.com](http://allemsstudio.com).



## COTTAGE COMEBACK

**page 80 Linen duvet set**, \$325; [parachutehome.com](http://parachutehome.com). **French Country boudoir pillow**; [aalamwaar.com](http://aalamwaar.com).

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## STICK UP FOR COLLECTING!

These eye-catching bumper stickers (\$6; [carterjunk.com](http://carterjunk.com)) are just the type of PDA (for collecting, of course) that author Mary Randolph Carter ("The Collecting Life," page 26) approves!

*“Some old-fashioned things  
like fresh air and sunshine  
are hard to beat.”*

—LAURA INGALLS WILDER



LOVE IT? PAINT IT!

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